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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Industries' Need

THE report of the Committee appointed to investigate the dual subjects of technical education and vocational training in Hongkong is so comprehensive and contains such a mass of data as to almost bewilder the reader. But the value of this monumental document cannot be questioned and the Committee fully earns the tribute which it received from the Hon. R. B. Black at this week's Legislative Council. Because the recommendations involve long-term official policy it is unlikely that all can or will receive Government's approval for immediate implementation. Clearly some of the proposals are more appealing and more urgent than others. Government's task will be to select the most appropriate recommendations for setting in motion the scheme for improving locally-trained skilled workers. It would appear desirable that emphasis be placed on special training facilities for recruits to Hongkong's growing industries, and in this connection general approval can be expected for the recommendations of apprenticeship indentures, and courses in applied arts and industrial design as well as construction engineering and textile manufacturing.

THE promotion of the highest possible standard of craftsmanship and finished workmanship in the manufacture of Hongkong products has long been urged by traders here and elsewhere. Undoubtedly steady progress has been made in this direction since the war, but there is still room for considerable improvement. Hongkong's light industries are here to stay; in fact they will continue to expand. And they will require properly trained and skilled local labour to keep them operating. This, we suggest, must be given the full weight of official consideration when it comes to deciding which of the Committee's recommendations shall be made effective. Every encouragement needs to be given to young students to decide on their vocation and then to offer them the necessary training facilities. This particularly applies where youths show interest in productive industries. Competitive industry today makes exacting demands in the way of technology and craftsmanship and they are demands which our local industries have to meet and satisfy if they are to succeed.

BERMUDA TALKS AGENDA

THEY MEET TODAY

CHURCHILL

EISENHOWER

LANIEL

Reply To Russian Note Tops List

BASIC PURPOSES OF CONFERENCE

Hamilton, Bermuda, Dec. 4.

The "Big Three" have agreed in advance to make the latest Soviet note favouring a Big Four Foreign Ministers' meeting the first topic for discussion at the Bermuda conference opening here today, it was learned authoritatively.

Already installed in the heavily-guarded conference headquarters in the Mid Ocean Club, the British Prime Minister, Sir Wins on Churchill, and the French Prime Minister, M. Joseph Laniel, will today greet President Eisenhower when he arrives for the long delayed Big Three conference.

Until late next Monday, heads of government assisted by Foreign Ministers and other advisers will confer almost continuously in formal sessions and informal meal-time meetings on problems of the free world and its relations or lack of relations with the Communist powers.

The basic purposes of the conference, as outlined by spokesmen for the three powers, are four-fold:

1. To assure the Soviet leaders of the West's peaceful intentions.

2. To explore the "if, when and how" of direct contacts between the Western leaders and the Malenkov regime.

3. To strengthen material defences against present and potential Communist aggression in the Far East and Europe.

4. To remove existing and potential causes of friction and disunity between the Western powers themselves and between their Allies.

Preparing to "negotiate from strength," the Western leaders will make a broad sweeping review of cold war strategy.

In particular they will have to consider many international disputes now holding up completion of the West's defence system.

IN FOREFRONT

In the forefront of such problems are delays in French ratification of the European Defence Community (EDC) treaty providing for a European Army, including Germans.

Next come such disputes as those between France and Germany over the Saar and between Italy and Yugoslavia of Trieste, which delay the integration of Western and Southern European defences.

Thirdly, there is the series of controversies between Britain and Egypt, India and Pakistan and the Arabs and Israel, now impeding the building up of the Middle Eastern sector of the defence perimeter.

Agreement by the Big Three on the terms of a reply to the Soviet note is expected to provide the first concrete result of the Bermuda conference, though the Western notes will probably not be dispatched from their home capitals until after the conference has closed.

Advance predictions from all delegations are that the Western powers will agree to meet the Soviet Foreign Minister early in 1954.

Terms of the reply will be of considerable tactical importance in determining the positions from which the Western powers will negotiate.

The United States wants it made clear that the initial Western proposal, now accepted by the Soviet Union, was primarily for a conference to discuss the German and Austrian questions which the Americans say must therefore be given priority on the agenda.

ADENAUER'S VIEWS

Before the conference is over, the Big Three will have a further communication from Dr Konrad Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, outlining his views and suggestions on those parts of the Soviet note relating to Germany.

West Germany is not represented in Bermuda by any observer, official or unofficial, but Dr Adenauer is being kept informed through normal diplomatic channels.

There have been indications of German impatience recently at delays in implementing the 18-month-old contractual agreement giving virtual sovereignty to Western Germany.

Events in the Far East confront the Big Three with the necessity of co-ordinating and harmonising their policies there in both long and short terms.

They may have to decide in the near future what course to follow:

1. If the current Communist-United Nations Panmunjom talks to bring about a Korean political conference break down completely.

2. If recent feelers by Ho Chi-minh result in Indo-Chinese armistice negotiations becoming a practical possibility.

3. If the prisoner of war exchange arrangements in Korea break down.

OVERSHADOWED

The Korean discussions are overshadowed by the possibility that next spring, President Rhee of South Korea may renew and implement his threats to resume the war.

From a long term view point, Western powers have to consider the problem created by their divergent positions on the recognition of Communist China and Chinese representation in the United Nations, though Western leaders have made it clear they will not attempt to reach agreement on this subject here.

Much will depend on Communist tactics regarding the Korean conference.

The Big Three will also have to consider the related question of what attitude to take towards Soviet demands for a Big Five conference including Communist China to seek relaxation of international tensions globally.

The Big Three will also probably agree on a specific measure to strengthen the co-ordination of their anti-Communist resistance in Southeast Asia through closer liaison and planning together with Australia and New Zealand.—Reuter.

WOMEN JURORS FAINT

Leeds, Dec. 3.

Two women members of a jury at a Leeds assize court fainted today, when they heard the judge pass the death sentence on two persons they had just found guilty of murder.

The jury decided after four and a half hours' sitting that an Irish couple had murdered their baby.—France-Presse.

Summer Time To Start Earlier

London, Dec. 3.

The Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, told the House of Commons today that British summer time would begin eight days earlier than last year, and would finish two days later.

Summer time (one hour later than GMT) will therefore begin on April 11, and end on October 2.—France-Presse.

Queen Attends A Birthday Party

Aboard ss Gothic Dec. 3.

Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh attended a party today for the 54th birthday of Vice-Admiral E. M. C. Abel Smith, Vice-Admiral of the Royal Yachts, on board the Royal tour liner.

A hot sun shone from blue skies and sparkled on the blue ocean waters.

At midday, when the party began in the ship's library, the escort cruiser Sheffield signalled by flag to the Gothic, "Happy birthday."

Lady Pamela Mountbatten, lady-in-waiting to the Queen, gave the Admiral a sailor doll, which he showed proudly to the Royal couple.

After the Queen and the Duke had arrived at the party, a Royal Marine band in the next room played "Happy Birthday" and "For He's A Jolly Good Fellow."

Some guests altered the words to "For He's A Jolly Good Admiral."—Reuter.

Violence On 'Frisco Waterfront

Trade Unionists & Police Clash

San Francisco, Dec. 3.

An enraged mob of some 1,000 American Federation of Labour Maritime unionists clashed in a brief but bloody fight with police riot squad members today on the waterfront here.

The AFL men, members of the Sailors, Marine Firemen and Cooks and Stewards Unions, marched on Pier 39 to "get" rival Left Wing independent unionists who earlier had beaten up several AFL men.

Their target was a group of about 150 members of Harry Bridges' Longshore Union and Hugh Bryson's independent National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, gathered on the pier to picket the passenger-freighter ss Aleutian, centre of a jurisdictional fight between the AFL Stewards and NUMCS.

Both sides were armed with clubs, brickbats and bludgeons torn from the wooden railings of the pier.

WALL OF POLICE

All available police officers were rushed to the waterfront. The advancing AFL men reached a wall of police standing between them and their rivals.

Policemen pounded skulls with their truncheons to beat back unionists who tried to fight through the police wall. A steady drizzling rain added to the confusion.

At least five union men were hurt in the scuffle, which lasted about six minutes. Six unionists were arrested, including one man who was said to be carrying a loaded and cocked pistol.

A temporary truce was established after Jack Hatten, business agent for the AFL Firemen's Union, conferred with the police captain in charge of the riot squad.

Hatten charged that some 75 AFL Cooks and Stewards were "virtually being held prisoner on the Aleutian" by the Bryson Union.—United Press.

Life Sentences For War Crimes

Marseilles, Dec. 3.

A French military court tonight sentenced five former German Gestapo officials to penal servitude for life for war crimes.

Five others were given terms of penal servitude varying from five to 15 years and a sixth was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

Four other Gestapo members were sentenced to death in their absence after a 16-day trial.—Reuter.

Japan Wins Her Request

Admission To The International Court Of Justice

New York, Dec. 3.

The United Nations Security Council today recommended acceptance of Japan's request to become a party to the statute of the International Court of Justice.

By a vote of ten in favour, none against, with one abstention (the Soviet Union), the Council approved a report from its committee of experts which listed three conditions for Japan's admission to the Court. The Council's recommendation must now be voted upon by the General Assembly.

The Council recommended that Japan first deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations an instrument accepting the provisions of the Court's statutes, accepting all obligations and agreeing to contribute to the expenses of the Court.

The report of the Committee of experts said that when the committee met on November 26 to consider the Japanese communication, "most representatives expressed support for the application of Japan."

It said the committee decided by ten votes to none, with the Soviet Union abstaining, to adopt a Lebanese proposal to advise the Security Council to send the following recommendation to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

"The Security Council recommends that the General Assembly, in accordance with article 93, paragraph 2, of the Charter, determine the conditions on which Japan may become a party to the statute of the International Court of Justice, as follows:

"Japan will become a party to the statute on the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of an instrument, signed on behalf of the Government of Japan and ratified as may be required by Japanese constitutional law, containing:

"(a) acceptance of the provisions of the statute of the International Court of Justice.

"(b) acceptance of all the obligations of a member of the United Nations under article 94 of the Charter, and

"(c) an undertaking to contribute to the expenses of the Court such equitable amount as the General Assembly shall assess from time to time after consultation with the Japanese Government."

NOT A PRECEDENT

The committee of experts said that during the discussion, it was pointed out that the conditions recommended in the case of Japan were not intended to constitute a precedent to be followed in any future case under article 93, paragraph two, of the Charter.

Following the approval of this recommendation, Mr Alexis Kyrou, of Greece, the Council President, said he would send it on to the President of the General Assembly.

The entire proceedings lasted only a few minutes and there was no debate.

When Mr Vyrhinsky put up his hand in abstention, there were some laughs from the public gallery. Mr Kyrou called on the public to remain silent.—Reuter.

Ex-Diplomat's Death

Cairo, Dec. 3.

Sir Robert Hyde Greg, British diplomat who worked for many years in Cairo and has lived here since his retirement in 1940, died in his home at Giza, a Cairo suburb, today aged 76.

He began his career as a clerk in the Foreign Office in 1898, came to the Embassy here in 1911, and was seconded to the Egyptian Government service from 1917 to 1921, being given charge of the Foreign Ministry.

He had also served as British Minister in Bangkok and Bucharest and in the British Embassy in Lisbon.—Reuter.

Persia Asks Britain To Resume Diplomatic Relations

SHAH GIVES HIS APPROVAL

Teheran, Dec. 3.

Persia has asked Britain to resume diplomatic relations, according to an informed source.

The move—which is unconditional—is considered by the Persian Government as a test of British good faith, the source said.

Persia expects Britain to reciprocate by taking part in talks aimed at solving the Persian oil problem.

The Shah of Persia was reported in Teheran today to have given his approval to the Government's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Britain, Cairo Radio reported tonight.

The Shah was believed to have given his assent in an interview with the Persian Foreign Minister, Mr Abdullah Entezam, this morning, the Radio said.

Earlier Mr Entezam conferred with the United States Ambassador, Mr Loy Henderson, and the Swiss Minister, representing British interests in Persia.

Beirut Radio said tonight Mr Entezam was believed to have communicated to Mr Henderson Persia's reply to the proposal of Mr Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, that diplomatic relations be resumed.

The Radio also said it was believed Mr Entezam handed the Persian reply to the Swiss Minister.

Meanwhile, the Mullah Ayatollah Kashani, Persia's powerful religious leader, was reported by Cairo Radio to have voiced his vigorous opposition to the resumption of relations with Britain pending settlement of the Anglo-Persian oil dispute.

Kashani was said to have stated in Teheran that he would issue a communique about his opposition later today.

Cairo Radio said a spokesman of the Persian Majlis (Parliament) said last night that General Fazlollah Zahedi's Government had decided to resume relations and that Parliament had endorsed the decision.

The spokesman added that a joint Anglo-Persian announcement could be expected this week, Cairo Radio added.—Reuter.

A Present For McCarthy

Washington, Dec. 3.

America's spy-hunting Senator Joseph McCarthy today discovered his biggest case of Spies right in his own mailbox—a case of cooking apples.

With the apples was a note from newspapermen on the Toronto Globe and Mail: "Here's something to sink your teeth into—you and your committee. The woods here are full of them."

The apples were the well-known Canadian variety known as "Spy Apples."

Unabashed, Senator McCarthy posed for photographers in front of the case of Spies and thanked the Canadians for the gift.—France-Presse.

Eden's Nephew Fails In Election Bid

London, Dec. 3.

Mr John Eden, nephew of Mr Anthony Eden, Britain's Conservative Foreign Secretary, failed to win the Parliamentary seat from Labour in a by-election at North Paddington, London, today.

Labour's majority was 2,260.

The result of the polling, declared tonight, was:

Mr Benjamin Parkin, Labour, 14,274.

Mr John Eden, Conservative, 12,674.

Mr William Waters, Socialist Party of Great Britain, 242.

The Labour majority at the general election was 4,089.

The by-election was caused by the resignation of Labour member William Fields, who in the 1951 general election had a majority of 4,089 votes.

Composition of the 625-seat House of Commons will now be:

Conservatives and Allies	322
Labour	294
Liberals	6
Irish Labour	1
Nationalists	2

On paper, this gives the Conservative Government a majority of 19. But the majority is actually 18, because the Speaker, a Conservative, does not vote.

The result was telephoned to Sir Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, now in Bermuda for the Big Three talks.—Reuter.

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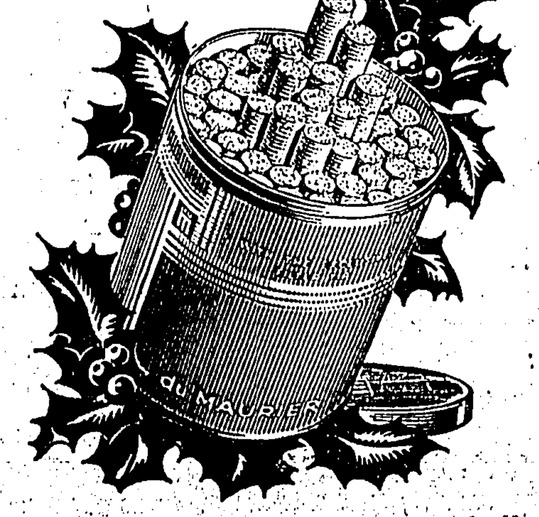

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New Soviet Ambassador To Peking Causes A Big Surprise

London, Dec. 3.

The replacement of Vassili Kuznetsov by Professor Pavel Yudin as the Soviet Ambassador in Peking, announced yesterday in Moscow, has somewhat caused a surprise in political circles here.

These circles pointed out that Kuznetsov's mission in China had hardly lasted nine months.

His appointment to the Peking post a few days after the death of Stalin was interpreted at the time as showing the desire of the new Soviet leaders to help the Chinese leaders in problems created by the industrialisation of the country.

Kuznetsov, a former Soviet trade union leader, was considered here as a specialist in planning, whose advice could have been valuable to the Peking leaders. Besides, the British trade union circles had also thought that the Kremlin intended to counteract the activity shown in non-Communist countries by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and that Kuznetsov would help the pro-Communist unionists play a leading role in the trade union movement in Southeast Asia—Burma, Thailand, and Indo-China.

Two hypotheses were given today in generally well-informed circles as to the reasons for this replacement.

RECENT PURGES

The first would be the existence of divergences between China and the Soviet Union, especially on the question of North Korea's relations with its two powerful neighbours. The recent purges in Pyongyang, the successive journeys of the North Korean Premier, Marshal Kim Il-sung, to Peking and Moscow, the competition between China and the Soviet Union on the subject of reconstruction aid to North Korea indicated, according to this hypothesis, a certain rivalry between the two countries.

The second hypothesis was that of a desire for a still closer relationship between the two countries. Kuznetsov's mission was to conclude a new trade agreement between the two countries, according to this hypothesis. Now, the Kremlin prefers to have a man in Moscow like Kuznetsov, who knows the Western languages, and has close contacts with international union circles.

ANOTHER ROLE

Besides, the presence in Peking of Yulin, who is a theoretician on Marxism, is now required in Communist China, where the Marxist-Leninist ideology is being applied, and where Soviet experience could be used.

According to this second hypothesis, Yulin would have another role as Ambassador to Peking. He would lay the foundation of a Cominform on a world level. This organ would unite the two organisations, the Cominform proper which groups the Soviet Union and the European countries, and the co-ordinating bureau of the Asian Communist movements, which was reported to have been created recently, and has its centre in Peking.—France-Presse.

Nazi Informer Pardoned

Copenhagen, Dec. 3.

Friedrich Hagner, 60-year-old shoemaker serving a life sentence for informing to the Nazis during the war, has been pardoned and expelled from Denmark.

If he ever sets foot in the country again he has been warned that he will go back to prison.

Hagner, a German living in south Jutland when the plebiscite of 1919 handed it back to Germany, refused the offer of Danish citizenship.

He was accused of having in February, 1945, informed the Gestapo that a Danish doctor, Joergen Tellmann, had stored weapons for the Danish underground movement. Tellmann was arrested and executed. — China Mail Special.

FEWER FILM FESTIVALS

London, Dec. 4.

The world's main film producing countries have agreed that there are too many film festivals and are trying to cut down their number.

They propose to reduce the number of festivals each year as quickly as possible until in the end there will be only one "World Festival" at which competitive prizes are given.

Representatives of eight nations—France, Spain, United States, Sweden, Germany, Mexico, Britain and Italy—are meeting in London this week of the Administrative Council of the International Federation of Film Producers Associations.

Japan is also a member, but did not send a representative.

The Council approved this calender for 1954:

Category A (international festivals with competitive prizes): Cannes, March 25 to April 9; Venice, August.

Category B (festivals without prizes): Sao Paulo, Brazil, Feb. 12 to 26; Mar del Plate, Argentina, March 7 to 16; Berlin, June 18 to 29; San Sebastian, Spain, July.

Category C (specialised films): Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, (sport), February; Brussels (tourism and folklore) October.

Category D (festivals of a national character): Punta del Este, Uruguay, March 1 to 7; Locarno, July; Cairo, October.—China Mail Special.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL FLAG

Canberra, Dec. 3.

The Australian Federal Parliament today passed a Bill making the Australian blue ensign the national flag.

But it is expected here that the Bill will not become law until Queen Elizabeth herself gives personal assent when she visits Australia next year.

Normally, Bills passed by Parliament become law with the signature of the Governor-General.

The blue ensign consists of a Union Jack, a large seven-pointed star and a southern cross of stars, all set on a blue background.

The Bill, which was supported by Government and Opposition members, also makes the Australian Red ensign—the same as the blue ensign but with a red background—the Australian merchant flag, and preserves the right of people to fly the Union Jack.—Reuter.

Hamburg State Opera House

Hamburg, Dec. 4.

The Hamburg State Opera House, almost completely destroyed by bombing 10 years ago, will be opened by the middle of 1955, it was announced.

While reconstruction work goes on, the opera company is performing in a temporary auditorium built around the original stage, which escaped destruction. The foundation stone of the new building was laid by the former governing mayor of Hamburg,—Herr Max Brauer.—Reuter.

Japanese Brand Of Militarism Still Feared

London, Dec. 4.

Fears of the old Japanese brand of militarism still exist in Southeast Asian countries but feeling on the whole is not opposed to Japan possessing enough forces for her own defence, according to opinions on Japanese rearmament and on her resurgence as an economic power collected by foreign correspondents in those countries.

The views show in the main a striking similarity.

There is practically no apprehension at the prospect of Japanese economic penetration. Japan's technical help is welcomed as is a general exchange of goods.

Relations in general, however, are hindered by what the countries occupied by Japan during the war describe as a reluctance by her to pay reparations. This, they say, is holding up commercial exchanges and a resumption of normal diplomatic relations.

These are the views of foreign correspondents from various centres:

RANGOON

Rangoon: Burmese argue that if Japan is rich enough to rearm, she is also rich enough to pay reparations. The Prime Minister, U Nu, has said Burma does not mind Japan rearming sufficiently to defend herself but many educated Burmese remembering Japan's old ambitions still regard the rearming a potential danger to their newly-won independence.

Economic ties between the two countries will have rice as their basis for the next five years.

Singapore: Malaya still has fears of Japanese military penetration but she certainly has none of economic penetration. Already the average poorer man wears clothing made of Japanese cloth and cheap Japanese toys, bazaar goods and cement for private building are on sale.

TIN PLATE

Japan sends back to Malaya tin plate and corrugated iron made from tin ore imported from Malaya. She is one of Malaya's best rubber customers and there is talk of Japanese capital for investment in iron ore mining.

Bangkok: Japanese businessmen are reasserting their influence among the easy-going Thais who welcome their technical help. In Kanchanaburi Province, terminus of the Japanese built "death" railway, Japanese technicians are working in a number of Government-owned industrial plants.

A minority of Thais who suffered during the occupation are wary of Japan's rearmament but the majority feel Japan should be allowed forces for her own security and would welcome increasing Japanese trade.

DJAKARTA

Djakarta: The general attitude in Indonesia is reflected in a recent statement by the Deputy Prime Minister, Dr Wongsonegoro, that "Japan is the only country prepared to invest capital in Indonesia without waiting for the restoration of internal security.

"But relations with Japan are hampered by the unsolved question of reparations."

There is still some anti-Japanese feeling in Indonesia which, however, needs foreign investment buyers for her raw materials, technical assistance and capital goods.

Saigon: A Vietnam Government spokesman said recently that a preliminary agreement to establish diplomatic relations with Japan could be expected to be signed in Tokyo in a few weeks.

Vietnamese official sources concur with French officers that a limited Japanese rearmament might reduce the threat of Chinese aggression.—China Mail Special.

Possible Cotton Shortage

London, Dec. 3.

Fears were expressed in the House of Commons today that there might be a cotton shortage in Lancashire—for the first time in a century.

The House was considering a Government measure to dissolve the Raw Cotton Commission, the Government-owned monopoly set up in 1947 to handle cotton imports.

The Labour Opposition was led by Mr Harold Wilson, former President of the Board of Trade, who moved an amendment to continue certain functions of the Raw Cotton Commission until October 1955.

Mr Wilson said he feared that if the Commission was not required to hold adequate stocks in sufficient variety to meet all the claims put upon it, many mills might become stripped of stocks and have to close down.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Most of them felt that stocks in the next few years would decline and some grades would almost disappear, he said. Merchants were not likely to hold as big stocks as the Commission had, because they expected further price falls.

Mr Thornton, Labour, said there was a danger that within the next 12 months the cotton industry would suffer from unemployment because it had no raw materials. It would be the first time for 100 years that Lancashire would have unemployed because of a lack of cotton, he said.

Replying to the Labour critics, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, said the Commission had suffered a loss in its last accounting year and a similar loss was expected in the next.

The Government's proposal aimed at dissolving the Raw Cotton Commission before the next season began in October.—Reuter.

Jap Atom Victim To Marry

Blockley, Gloucestershire, Dec. 4.

A Japanese girl who spent weeks in hospital following the atomic raid on Hiroshima will be married here tomorrow to an ex-sergeant in the British Army.

Miss June Agnes Itose was leaving Hiroshima's railway station when the atomic bomb fell on August 8, 1945. She spent weeks recovering from "atomic disease."

The Bridegroom is Allan Kline, 28. They met at the British Commonwealth Forces Headquarters at Kure, Japan, where June took a job during her vacation from university.

The sergeant checked her work for three months before returning home in 1951 for demobilisation. After he got here he wrote asking her to marry him.

She flew to England in July and has been living with his family since. — China Mail Special.

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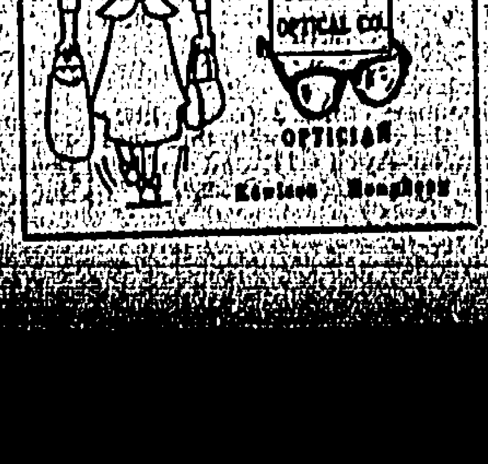

No More War Prisoners In Soviet Hands, Says Delegate

United Nations, N.Y., Dec. 3.

The Soviet Union today dashed the hopes of many United Nations delegations who had made a final appeal to countries still believed to be holding war prisoners to allow the repatriation of those still living.

In a blunt statement, the Soviet delegate, S. K. Czarapkin, said that Soviet repatriation of World War II prisoners had been completed.

There could be no doubt about this, he emphasised.

Citing as his authority official Tass reports of 1950, the Soviet delegate said that, except for war criminals and sick persons, the repatriation of German and Japanese prisoners taken by the Soviet armies had been completed.

In a counter attack against the West, the Soviet delegate accused the Allies of not having repatriated Axis prisoners taken by their armies.

Former American Secretary of State, Mr James Byrnes, rose to his feet to deny this charge and the accusation that the United States was preparing a third world war.

DEMOBILISATION

Byrnes added that the United States by its rapid demobilisation after the war, by its offer to turn over the secret of the atomic bomb to an international authority, and by its repeated offers to promote peace, had proved to the United Nations and the world the falsity of the Soviet accusations.

Former Axis prisoners, who had remained in western countries after these nations had fulfilled all their repatriation obligations, said Mr Byrnes, had done so of their own free will—because they had found in the West satisfactory working conditions and good salaries.

VIOLATION

The Soviet delegate called the re-opening of the debate on repatriation of prisoners a violation of the United Nations Charter. He said that the appointment of a committee on the subject was illegal and that the entire question was part of a policy of calumny and propaganda against the U.S.S.R.

M. Czarapkin said that the Soviet Union had taken two million German prisoners and 500,000 Japanese prisoners.

He charged that the western nations were the instigators of the maintenance in captivity of 800,000 German prisoners and asserted that these prisoners were now in Indo-China, Malaya and Madagascar where, added the Soviet delegate, they were fighting against "national liberation movements."

Mr Byrnes then hit back at the Soviet accusations by reaffirming his statement that all prisoners in the hands of the western powers had been repatriated before the date limit of December 1, 1948, fixed by international agreement.

SOVIET CLAIMS

In spite of the Soviet claims that repatriation had been completed, the Social Committee adopted the Anglo-American draft resolution that all countries, not already having done so, should make an immediate statement on all World War II prisoners still held by them.

The resolution, which asked that these statements should be handed to the special Prisoners of War Committee, was adopted by a vote of 44 to 5 (the Soviet Bloc) with five abstentions (the Arab-Asian group).

The Social Committee decided not to consider a Byelo-Russian proposal seeking the dissolution of the Special Committee on Prisoners of War. This motion was rejected by 21 votes (mainly western and Latin American states) to 11 (including the Soviet Bloc and Yugoslavia) with 16 abstentions.—France-Presse.

Jordan River Scheme

United Nations, Dec. 3.

Informed United Nations sources said tonight that the Western Big Three powers were considering a proposal to "freeze" the disputed Israeli hydro-electric project on the River Jordan pending further efforts to arrive at some Arab-Israeli agreement for joint water development.

The United States, Britain and France were not prepared to prevent any resolution on Syria's complaint against the Israeli project at today's Security Council meeting but were continuing consultations to complete a document by early next week.

Syrian delegates said they were prepared to offer a resolution of their own to the Security Council but that its submission would depend on the proposal to be made by the Western powers.

The Security Council adjourned today after hearing Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan of Pakistan. Neither Syria nor Israel was prepared to speak.

NEXT MEETING

The President, Mr Alexis Kyrou of Greece, said he would call the next meeting of the Council at the "earliest possible time" next week after the U.N. General Assembly has closed its current session—probably Tuesday.

Mr Charles Malik of the Lebanon is scheduled to speak first at the next Council meeting, with Mr Abba Eban of Israel following. Their speeches are planned as replies to the detailed statements already made by the opposing sides.

The proposal to "freeze" the Israeli project would in effect order the present suspension of work to be continued during an established period in which the truce supervisor, Maj-Gen. Vagn Bennike, would be charged with seeking some joint agreement on water development, according to informed sources.

American and British spokesmen said none of the possible measures outlined thus far was definite and it would be several days before a draft resolution actually took shape. — United Press.

A New Portrait Of Churchill

Stockholm, Dec. 3.

A portrait of Sir Winston Churchill in a blue mantle writing in a rose coloured book, adorns the Nobel Literature Prize diploma awarded recently to the British Prime Minister.

Roses bloom round his feet and a laurel tree spreads its branches behind him.

In the background stands the Duke of Marlborough, his ancestor, against the British Houses of Parliament, over which hover doves of peace with olive branches in their beaks.

Lady Churchill will receive the diploma for her husband next Thursday from King Gustaf Adolf of Sweden.

The diploma was designed by a Swedish woman artist, Berta Svensson-Pichl. — China Mail Special.

Frozen Toes 'Crunched' Off By Red Nurse

Washington, Dec. 3.

Sergeant Wendell H. Treffery told Senators today that a Chinese Communist nurse "crunched" off eight of his decaying toes with hedge clippers.

Later, Sgt Treffery said, he "snapped" off the rest of his toes himself to escape hospitalisation in an insect-ridden prison camp.

The Sergeant testified before a Task Force of the Senate Investigating Sub-Committee which is hearing atrocity reports from repatriated prisoners of war who fought the Reds in Korea.

His was a tale of malnutrition, dysentery, beri-beri, unspeakable filth, and brutality at the Communists' Yalu River Prison Camp No. 1.

Sgt Treffery was captured near the Chosin Reservoir in the late Autumn of 1950. He is still undergoing treatment at the Army Hospital in Waltham, Massachusetts. He is 25 and lives in Terryville, Connecticut.

SAVED HIS LIFE

He said he thinks he saved his life by removing his own big toes to avoid being sent to the "hospital" at Camp No. 1.

Most of the patients admitted to that hospital were never seen again, he said.

The Sergeant testified that his feet were frozen in the 20-below-zero cold because, soon after his capture, the Communists took his boots.

After one day of marching without shoes, he said, he found two rubber shoes, both left. He was marched for 16 days.

"All the meat had worn off my feet, all the skin had worn off, and there was nothing but bone showing," he said.—United Press.

NELSON JEWELS

London, Dec. 3.

One of the historic jewels stolen from the Nelson Museum at Monmouth three weeks ago was returned anonymously to Scotland Yard by post today.

A gold and enamel box on a snake ring with an inscription that it was presented to Lady Hamilton by Nelson, it is worth £200.—China Mail Special.

CARDINAL WYSZINSKI PETITION

London, Dec. 3.

The Archbishop of Sydney, Cardinal Gilroy, and the Coadjutor Archbishop of Wellington, the Most Reverend Peter McKeffry, were among the signatories of a resolution protesting against the imprisonment of Cardinal Stefan Wyszinski, Archbishop of Warsaw, submitted at a Roman Catholic rally in London tonight.

The protest, signed in the name of 58,000,000 Roman Catholics in the British Commonwealth and the English speaking world including the United States, demanded that the Polish Primate be liberated and that the Warsaw Government take immediate steps to grant full religious freedom to the people of Poland.

It was signed by eight Cardinals and many Archbishops and Bishops, and will be sent to the Polish Government.

UNJUSTIFIABLE

"This unjustifiable and sacrilegious assault upon a great religious leader who had performed outstanding services to the Polish nation," said the resolution, "has outraged the conscience of the freedom-loving peoples of the world, Catholic and non-Catholic alike."

The Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Griffin, told the gathering of 7,000 Roman Catholic clergy, laity and European exiles there was still no news about Cardinal Wyszinski's whereabouts and no attempt at a trial had been made.

Protests which left the Communists in no doubt about Catholic feelings could not be without effect, he said.

"Let his Communist gaolers be in no doubt of our feelings," the Archbishop said. "We know that by oppression alone they prevent the expression of feeling of those in whose name they pretend to act."

The rally, he added, demanded that the Polish Church should be set free "from the fetters in which she now languishes."—Reuter.

No War For The City Of Trieste

An assurance that Yugoslavia would not go to war for the city of Trieste, was given in a speech in Belgrade recently by President Tito. But, he added, that Yugoslavia would continue to insist on being given "all or Zone A which is completely ours." The city is in Zone A, but he was presumed here to be referring only to the wide areas in the hinterland which are predominently Slovene-speaking. The speech was heard by more than 200,000 people.—Express Photo.

Australian Sweep Unlucky

Perth, Australia, Dec. 3.

Mr George Hart, of Mount Ida, near Leonara, won the Leonara sweepstake on the Melbourne Cup last year and died five days later in a mine accident.

This year Mrs Leigh Page won the same sweepstake—and died in a road accident near Leonara within four days of collecting the money.—China Mail Special.

U.S. 7 Billion Deficit

New York, Dec. 3.

The Under-Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Marino Folsom, said today the United States Government would have a deficit of at least $7,500,000,000 (about £2,677,000,000) next year unless spending was cut.

The deficit could be as much as $9,250,000,000 (about £3,303,000,000), Mr Folsom estimated, if Congress refused to extend corporation and excise tax rates due to fall next spring to their level of before the Korean war.

But, he said, it was hoped sufficient spending reductions could be made so that the actual deficit would be considerably below $7,500,000,000.

Mr Folsom's forecast was based on estimates to revenue losses expected to result from projected tax cuts.

He was addressing a National Association of Manufacturers meeting here.

Mr Folsom said the Defence Department was making "good progress" in cutting security costs—"by eliminating extravagance and by getting more defence for less money."—Reuter.

American Doubts About Rearming West Germany

Paris, Dec. 4.

French diplomatic observers believe there are signs that American leaders are following Paris in having some doubts about the urgency of rearming West Germany and now regard it as less urgent than some time ago.

At the same time the vast majority of French leaders and Parliamentarians do not question the need for getting German armed forces to swell the inadequate forces of Western Europe.

Diplomatic sources said here last night that the Big Three would send their reply to Russia's agreement to a Four Power meeting direct to Moscow from Bermuda.

It was thought here that there would be no major difficulty among the Big Three in agreeing to the reply to Moscow. The French will suggest February for the Four Power meeting, and Vienna or Lugano as the site. The Russians have suggested Berlin.

As long as the war in Indo-China lasts, the French are bound to be militarily inferior in Europe to a rearmed Germany.

According to information reaching the French authorities, the Bonn Government was planning to recall 20,000 former Wehrmacht officers and 80,000 non-commissioned officers. This, according to French military calculations, would be enough to provide 15 divisions at full strength.

12 DIVISIONS

Under the EDC arrangement Germany would be asked to supply only 12 divisions, eight of which would be at three-quarter strength. Thus from the beginning, Germany would always be ready and eager to add additional forces, while France would always be in the position of keeping her contribution to a minimum.

These circumstances explain one of the reasons for French hesitation about ratifying EDC if the United States now showed understanding for the French viewpoint and agreed to go slow for the time being on immediate German rearmament. Three Power concordance of policy would be greatly helped.

Neither M. Laniel nor M. Bidault will be in a position to give any definite undertaking that the EDC can be ratified in its present supra-national form. Closer association of Britain would help to overcome some Parliamentary scruples.

According to usually reliable sources, the French Ambassador in London, M. Rene Massigli, has informed his Government that the British are not prepared to commit themselves to any substantial participation in the scheme. According to the same sources, the British Government has not yet defined its attitude should Germany be admitted directly to NATO.—Reuter.

No Secrets Over Trieste

London, Dec. 3.

The Foreign Office firmly denied today that it has given secret assurances to either Italy or Yugoslavia on the Trieste question.

An official spokesman said, "So far as Her Majesty's Government is concerned, no secret assurances have been given to the Italian or Yugoslav Governments on Trieste.

"Her Majesty's Government has been in close consultation with both countries and any suggestions or proposals communicated to the two Governments have been identical."

The statement came on the heels of a question in the House of Commons last night by a Labour Member, Mr Michael Foot, about reports of alleged secret assurances to the Italian Government on Trieste.

The Foreign Office spokesman emphasised that he was speaking exclusively on behalf of the British Government, but added that he had no reason to assume any different attitude on the part of the United States and French Governments.

Meanwhile, it is understood that the Big Three Powers are continuing their consultations on Trieste and that their Foreign Ministers are to raise the question at Bermuda this week.—United Press.

MARIAN YEAR BROADCAST BY POPE

Vatican City, Dec. 3.

Pope Pius XII will broadcast a message to Catholics throughout the world on Dec. 8, following the inauguration of the Marian Year at St Mary Major's Basilica.

The Pope will speak following his return from the ceremony to the Apostolic Palace. The speech will be broadcast in Italian and then translations in English, French, German, Spanish and Portuguese will follow.

The broadcast will follow the inauguration ceremony at St. Mary's during which the Pontiff will read for the first time the special Marian prayer which he has written. The Pope will recite the prayer with a group of girls of the Italian Catholic Action.

Before going to St. Mary's, Pope Pius will drive to Piazza Di Spagna, where a special ceremony will be held before the "Column of the Immaculate" which rises exactly in front of the Palazzo Di Spagna, a beautiful building which has been the Spanish Embassy to Rome since the 17th Century.—United Press.

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East German Factories May Be Returned

Bonn, Dec. 3.

The Soviet Control Commission is reported to be negotiating with the East German government to hand over 33 factories in East Germany operated by the Russians for their own profit since the end of the war.

But West Germans believe the "handover" will scarcely reduce Soviet control.

West German government officials say that in fact the Soviet Union has hardly given up any of the control which it won in East Europe during the war.

Its method in these satellite countries from which Soviet troops have been withdrawn, had been to infiltrate industry with "experts" and control essential concerns with joint companies in which the Soviet members have the last word.

There is reason to believe that in East Germany the Soviet Union will modify this practice slightly.

Last August the Soviet government promised an East German government delegation that it would hand over the 33 firms for conversion into "people owned" companies.

The 33—the pick of East Germany's chemical and machine tool industries—were from the beginning spared most of the rigours of dismantling.

Since 1945 they have been working full steam for the Soviet economy.

They include the Magdeburg machine tool plants, of which the best formerly belonged to Krupp and the Saxon synthetic oil works at Schkopau and Leuna, once part of the Furben Chemical Trust.

The entire economy of East Germany has been so integrated into that of the Soviet bloc over the last four years that it is very difficult for it to act independently.

East Germany's trading connections with the Western world have been reduced to almost nil.

East German industry is saturated with Soviet "experts" who at first were military government officials in uniform but now wear mainly civilian clothes.

It is impossible to take action on an important question without their consent.

It is generally agreed that the 33 companies are badly in need of new investment for repairs and modernisation.

They have been working all out on reparations account for the past eight years, without the owners, the Soviet Union, investing a single rouble.—Reuter.

U.N. Commission

United Nations, New York, Dec. 3.

The United Nations General Assembly in plenary session today appointed seven countries as members of a committee for South-West Africa.

The committee will be charged with the task of examining reports and petitions regarding the territory up to the time that agreement can be reached between the Union of South Africa, the present mandatory power, and the United Nations.—France-Presse.

EYES BEQUEATHED TO BLIND

Birmingham, Dec. 3.

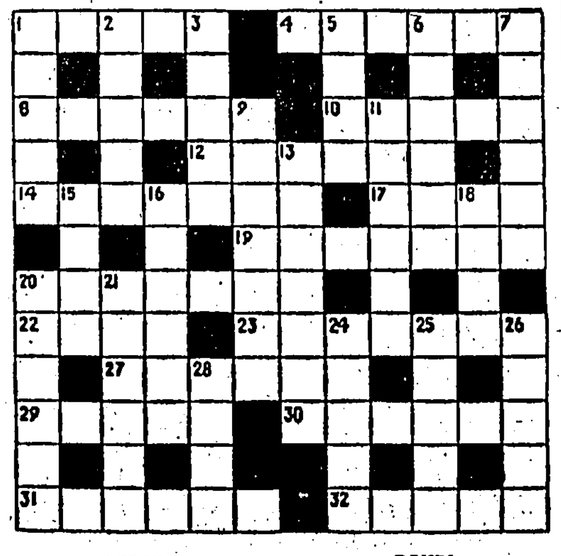
Five residents of Walsall in Warwickshire have just completed the legal formalities for bequeathing their eyes after their death so that others who are blind or partially blind may be given a chance to have their sight restored.

Their action followed quickly the disclosure that at least 50 people in Walsall were waiting to undergo operations for cornea grafting in the hope that they would be able to see again.

Until the cornea grafting bill became law in Britain about 12 months ago, it was almost impossible to bequeath eyes to hospitals as in law it was not recognised that a dead body had property.

Today a person may bequeath eyes legally merely by expressing a wish to do so orally or in writing in the presence of two witnesses.—China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Foundation (5).
4 Speaker (6).
8 Scratched (6).
10 Fight (5).
12 Tyrant (6).
14 Gale (7).
17 Wagon (4).
19 Commissions (7).
20 Be scandalised by (7).
22 Spoken (4).
23 Barbarians (7).
27 Picture-house (6).
29 Tolerate (5).
30 Unmarried (6).
31 Summary (6).
32 Happening (5).

DOWN

1 Surround (5).
2 Talk violently (5).
3 Vegetable (5).
5 Grate (4).
6 Worn by Scottish Highlanders (6).
7 Matures (6).
9 Merit (7).
11 Bastard (6).
13 Pours out abundantly (7).
15 Pitcher (4).
16 Wan (6).
18 Object of worship (4).
20 Senile person (6).
21 Stepping out (6).
24 Ingenuous (5).
25 Corner (5).
26 Aroma (5).
28 Tidings (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 3 Assaults, 8 Heed, 9 Director, 11 Computes, 13 Iron, 15 Believed, 18 Saluting, 19 Wart, 21 Diverted, 25 Intrudes, 26 Gift, 27 Desolate. Down: 1 Chic, 2 Term, 4 Slit, 6 Apes, 6 Later, 7 Siren, 9 Dudes, 10 Rebel, 12 Opera, 14 Ounce, 16 Valid, 17 Dupes, 19 Weird, 20 Rites, 21 Dull, 22 Vent, 23 Trim, 24 Duly.

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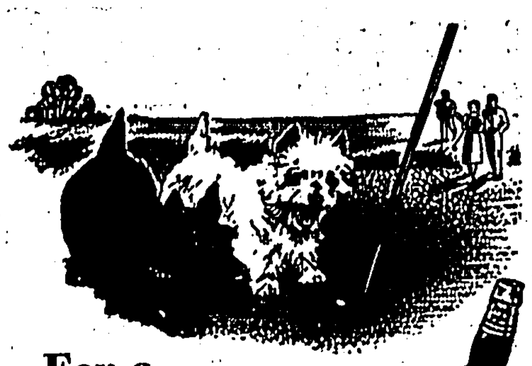

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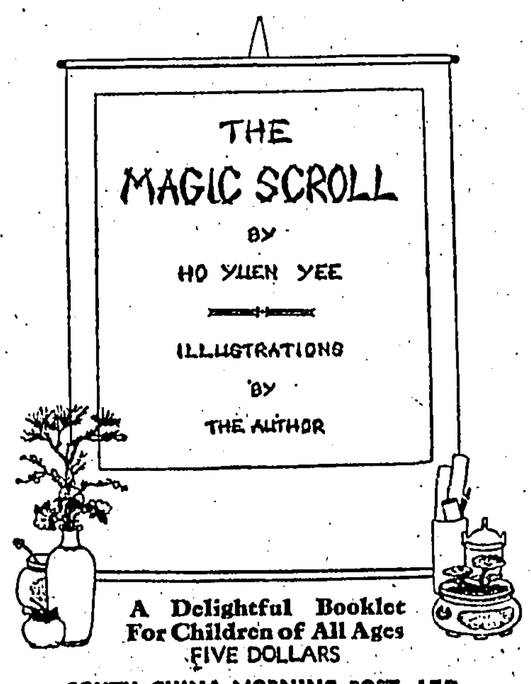

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"TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY" . . . . . CHAPTER 18

REVOLT IN GREECE . . . AND THE STIR THAT FOLLOWED

British troops entered Southern Greece early in October, 1944, and occupied Athens by the middle of that month. It was, however, November before the last Germans crossed the northern frontier.

According to the Caserta agreement, signed in September, all Greek guerilla forces were to be under the orders of M. Papandreou's coalition Government, which put them under command of the British Gen. Scobie. E.L.A.S., the Communist-dominated "People's National Army of Liberation," did not observe this agreement, though E.A.M., the "National Liberation Front" which was their political wing, was represented in the Government.

A REVOLT by E.A.M. was imminent, and on Nov. 15 Gen. Scobie was directed to make counter-preparations. Athens was to be declared a military area, and authority was given to order all E.L.A.S. troops to leave it. The 4th Indian Division was sent from Italy to Salonika, Athens, and Patras. The Greek Brigade also came from Italy and became the centre of controversy between Papandreou and his E.A.M. colleagues.

The only chance of averting civil war was to disarm the guerillas and other forces by mutual agreement and establish a new National Army and police force under the direct control of the Government in Athens.

Arrangements were made to raise and equip National Guard battalions, each 500 strong. Ultimately there were 30 of these; they proved very useful in rounding-up armed hostile civilians and guarding areas cleared by our troops.

A draft decree for the demobilisation of the guerillas, drawn up at M. Papandreou's request by the E.A.M. Ministers themselves, was presented to the distracted Cabinet. The regular Greek Mountain Brigade and the Sacred Squadron were to remain. E.L.A.S. were to keep a brigade of their own, and E.D.E.S. [the Nationalist guerillas] were to be given a small force.

But at the last moment the E.A.M. Ministers went back on their own proposals, on which they had wasted a precious week, and demanded that the Mountain Brigade should be disbanded. The Communist tactic was now in full swing. On Dec. 1 the six Ministers associated with E.A.M. resigned, and a general strike in Athens was proclaimed for the following day.

The rest of the Cabinet passed a decree dissolving the guerillas, and the Communist party moved its headquarters from the capital. Gen. Scobie issued a message to the people of Greece stating that he stood firm behind the present constitutional Government "until the Greek State can be established with a legally armed force and free elections can be held." I issued a similar personal statement from London.

★

ON Sunday, Dec. 3, Communist supporters, engaging in a banned demonstration, collided with the police, and civil war began. The next day Gen. Scobie ordered E.L.A.S. to evacuate Athens and the Piraeus forthwith. Instead their troops and armed civilians tried to seize the capital by force.

At this moment I took a more direct control of the affair. On learning that the Communists had already captured all the police stations in Athens, murdering the bulk of their occupants not already pledged to their attack, and were within half a mile of the Government offices, I ordered Gen. Scobie and his 5,000 British troops, who 10 days before had been received with rapture as deliverers by the population to intervene and fire upon the treacherous aggressors.

It is no use doing things like this by halves. The mob violence by which the Communists sought to conquer the city and present themselves to the world as the Government demanded by the Greek people could only be met by firearms. There was no time for the Cabinet to be called.

★

ANTHONY [Eden] and I were together till about two o'clock, and were entirely agreed that we must open fire. Seeing how tired he was, I said to him, "If you like to go to bed, leave it to me." He did, and at about 3 a.m. I drafted the following telegram:

Prime Minister to Gen. Scobie (Athens). Repeated to Gen. Wilson (Italy) 5 Dec. 44

I have given instructions to Gen. Wilson to make sure that all forces are left with you and all possible reinforcements are sent to you.

You are responsible for maintaining order in Athens and for neutralising or destroying all E.A.M.-E.L.A.S. bands approaching the city. You may make any regulations you like for the strict control of the streets or for the rounding up of any number of truculent persons.

Naturally E.L.A.S. will try to put women and children in the van where shooting may occur. You must be clever about this and avoid mistakes. But do not hesitate to fire at any armed mob in Athens who assails the British authority or Greek authority with which we are working.

It would be well, of course, if your command were reinforced by the authority of some Greek Government, and Papandreou is being told by Leeper [the British Ambassador] to stop and help. *Do not however hesitate to act if you were in a conquered city where a local rebellion is in progress.**

With regard to E.L.A.S. bands approaching from the outside, you should surely be able with your armour to give some of these a lesson which will make others unlikely to try. You may count upon my support in all reasonable and sensible action taken on this basis. *We have to hold and dominate Athens. It would be a great thing for you to succeed in this without bloodshed if possible, but also with bloodshed if necessary.*

★

THIS telegram was dispatched at 4.50 a.m. on Dec. 5. I must admit that it was somewhat strident in tone. I felt it so necessary to give a strong lead to the military commander that I intentionally worded it in the sharpest terms. The fact that he had such an order in his possession would not only encourage him to decisive action, but gave him the certain assurance that I should be with him in any well-conceived action he might take, whatever the consequences might be.

I felt grave concern about the whole business, but I was sure that there should be no room for doubts or hedging. I had in my mind Arthur Balfour's celebrated telegram in the 'eighties to the British authorities in Ireland: "Don't hesitate to shoot." This was sent through the open telegraph offices. There was a furious storm about it in the House of Commons of those days, but it certainly prevented any loss of life.

★

LATER that day I telegraphed to our Ambassador.

This is no time to dabble in Greek politics or to imagine that Greek politicians of varying shades can affect the situation. You should not worry about Greek Government compositions. The matter is one of life and death.

You must urge Papandreou to stand to his duty and assure him he will be supported by all our forces if he does so. The day has long gone past when any particular group of Greek politicians can influence this mob rising. His only chance is to come through with us.

I have put the whole question of the defence of Athens and the maintenance of law and order in the hands of Gen. Scobie, and have assured him that he will be supported in the use of whatever force is necessary. Henceforward you and Papandreou will conform to his directions in all matters affecting public order and security.

You should both support Scobie in every possible way, and you should suggest to him any means which occur to you of making his action more vigorous and decisive. Every good wish.

★

E.L.A.S. had quickly gained control of most of Athens, except only its very centre, where our troops first held them and then began to counter-attack. Scobie reported:

8 Dec. 44

Increased activities on the part of the rebels and widespread sniping limited progress during the fighting which continued throughout yesterday. . . .

Some progress was made by the 23rd Brigade in house-to-house clearing throughout the afternoon. A further sector in the centre of the city was cleared by the Parachute Brigade.

Marine reinforcements had to be landed from H.M.S. Orion to deal with serious sniping of Navy House, Piraeus, by rebels who infiltrated into the area south of Port Leontos. In face of strong opposition our troops were forced to withdraw in one area.

In the area being cleared by the Greek Mountain Brigade an attack was made by the rebels from the flank. The attack was held, but delayed progress of the brigade.

This showed the scale of the fighting on which we had now embarked.

Prime Minister to Gen. Wilson (Italy) 8 Dec. 44

You should send further reinforcements to Athens without the slightest delay. The prolongation of the fight has many dangers. I warned you of the paramount political importance of this conflict. At least two more brigades should hurry to the scene.

In addition to the above, why does not the Navy help all the time instead of only landing a small number in a crisis? You guaranteed most strongly that you had already sent enough soldiers.

Prime Minister to Gen. Scobie 8 Dec. 44

There is much talk in the Press tonight of a peace offer by E.L.A.S. Naturally we should be glad to have this matter settled, but you should make quite sure, so far as your influence goes, that we do not give away for the sake of kindness what has been won or can still be won by our troops.

It would seem to me that anything less satisfactory than the terms agreed upon before the revolt took place should not be accepted. Also it is difficult to see how E.A.M. leaders, with their hands wet with Greek and British blood, should resume their places in the Cabinet. This might, however, be got over. The great thing is to proceed with caution and to consult us upon the terms when they are made.

The clear objective is the defeat of E.A.M. The ending of the fighting is subsidiary to this. I am ordering large reinforcements to come to Athens, and Field-Marshal Alexander will probably be with you in a few days. Firmness and sobriety are what are needed now, and not eager embraces, while the real quarrel is unsettled. Keep us informed before any compromise is settled in which you or Leeper are concerned.

★

RUMOURS were spread by Communists and their like in London that British troops were in sympathy with E.A.M. There was no truth in them.

On the peace offer the answer was:

Gen. Scobie to Prime Minister 10 Dec. 44

We would at once inform you should any peace offer be made by E.L.A.S., but neither the Ambassador nor I know of any such approach.

I have clearly before me the main objective you mention. While any one party is able to back its views with a private army Greece can never achieve peace and stability. Fighting may, I hope, be restricted to Athens-Piraeus, but I am ready to see it through in the rest of the country if necessary. It is a pity that tear gas may not be used. It would be of great help in this city fighting. . . .

★

NOW that the free world has learnt so much more than was then understood about the Communist movement in Greece and elsewhere, many readers will be astonished at the vehement attacks to which His Majesty's Government, and I in particular at its head, were subjected. The vast majority of the American Press violently condemned our action, which they declared falsified the cause for which they had gone to war.

If the editors of all these well-meaning organs will look back at what they wrote then and compare it with what they think now they will, I am sure, be surprised. The State Department, in the charge of Mr Stettinius, issued a markedly critical pronouncement, which they in their turn were to regret, or at least reverse, in after years.

In England there was much perturbation. The Times and the Manchester Guardian pronounced their censures upon what they considered our reactionary policy. Stalin, however, adhered strictly and faithfully to our agreement of October, and during all the long weeks of fighting the Communists in the streets of Athens not one word of reproach came from Pravda or Isvestia.

In the House of Commons there was a great stir. I accepted willingly the challenge flung at us in an amendment moved by Sir Richard Acland, the leader and sole member in Parliament of the Commonwealth Party, supported by Mr Shinwell and Mr Aneurin Bevan. There was a strong current of vague opinion, and even passion, of which these and other similar figures felt themselves the exponents.

★

HERE again any Government which had rested on a less solid foundation than the National Coalition might well have been shaken to pieces. But the War Cabinet stood like a rock against which all the waves and winds might beat in vain. When we recall what has happend to Poland, to Hungary, and Czechoslovakia in these later years we may be grateful to Fortune for giving us at this critical moment the calm, united strength of determined leaders of all parties.

Only 30 members faced us in the division lobby. Nearly 300 voted confidence. Here again was a moment in which the House of Commons showed its enduring strength and authority.

(Continued Tomorrow)

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* *Author's subsequent italics throughout.*

HOW RED WAS RED RIDING HOOD?

FURTHER to that inquiry by Mrs. Thomas J. White, adviser to the Indianapolis Education Board, about the politics of our Robin Hood, I place at her disposal the following political colour guide in shades of *RED, PINK,* and *BLUE,* assuring her that the few legendary or nursery rhyme characters picked at random from the files represent an accurate cross-section.

I fear that with few exceptions people like Robin Hood, Cinderella, Jack and the Beanstalk all had a very definite leaning towards the Left at some time or other if they were not completely "Commie," and stand a thin chance of ever getting further into the U.S. than Ellis Island.

STARTING with Robin Hood: We mark him RED. Very red—red as a geranium. "Commie" as they come. And no nonsense about it.

CINDERELLA: *PINK.* Pink because, although she started off as fine Communist material with an excellent down-trodden, working-class background, she fell for the first opportunity of becoming a capitalist by marrying a prince. They are reported to have lived happily ever afterwards — whether by Cinderella's fireside or in the prince's palace history does not say. So it's a *PINK* for Cinderella.

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK: *BLUE.* He, too, according to some people, could have made a useful "Commie," squandering other people's cows and things for a few beans for himself. But he got a *BLUE* because, when he eventually finished up very rich by climbing beanstalks and stealing wealthy giants' cash, there was none of this give-it-to-the-poor business. He and his old mother stuck to the lot.

BLACK SHEEP (Ba Ba): *PINK.* Because we think he was one of these "on the fence" clients. We're told he gave "one for the master and one for the dame," but we're also told that he gave "one for the little boy who lived down the lane," and we don't know whether the little boy was rich or poor, a member of the Young Tories or Young Communists. Nor do we know whether the wool he was handling out belonged to him (the Black Sheep) or was fleeced from other members of the flock.

OLD KING COLE: *RED.* We don't know much about him except that he called for his fiddlers three, which could mean anything. But when you don't know what a person's politics are if you're a *BLUE* you call him a *RED,* and vice versa.

SIMPLE SIMON: I don't know what colour he was. Unless the fact that he wanted something for nothing gives us a clue.

GOLDILOCKS: Must be *BLUE.* When you think of Goldilocks you associate her with bears, and when you think of bears you think of Bulls, Bears and Bulls — stockbrokers — Stock Exchange — of course she must be a *BLUE.*

LET GILES GUIDE YOU THROUGH NURSERY-TALE LAND, 1953

Contrary girl

MARY (had a little lamb): I suppose lamb was all right, with a fleece as white as snow, but there are so many conflicting versions about Mary, most of which make her a very shady character indeed. So to be on the safe side we'll call her a *RED.*

LITTLE BOY BLUE: *BLUE.*

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Well, of course, if you go around calling yourself "Little Red" this, that, or the other . . .

—(*London Express Service*)

TAIKOO ICING SUGAR

obtainable from all shops and stores

THE DUFFLE TWINS . . . . . by DODD

• JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Figuring This Raise Is Really Difficult

NORTH (D) 7
♠ K 9 6 3
♥ 5
♦ Q 10
♣ A K J 10 9 4

WEST
♠ 7 4
♥ 9 8 6 4
♦ 9 6 5 3 2
♣ 5 2

EAST
♠ 8
♥ K J 10 7 3
♦ A K 8 4
♣ 8 7 3

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 5 2
♥ A Q 2
♦ J 7
♣ Q 6

Both sides vul.

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead—♦ 3

By OSWALD JACOBY

NOBODY has ever discovered where North found his raise to three spades in the hand shown today. He thought that two spades was a decided underbid and hoped that the double raise would spur his partner on to game but would not cause him to consider a slam.

North guessed wrong, since South did decide to bid a slam. It was a bad slam contract, to be sure, but South would have made 13 tricks against any opening lead but a diamond.

As it happened, East was able to signal for a diamond lead by doubling the slam. Some experts follow the understanding that a slam double calls for a lead in the first suit bid by the dummy. This is better than no slam double convention altogether, but it isn't flexible enough. A better rule is that the double of a slam asks your partner to make an unusual lead.

If East had not doubled, West would have led hearts, his partner's bid suit. Since the double called for an unusual lead, West had to choose between diamonds and clubs. (A slam double never calls for the opening lead of a trump, since this is almost invariably the worst possible lead against a slam.)

West reasoned that his partner would not double for a club lead if he had high clubs; he could afford to wait and get his club tricks later on. It was very unlikely that East was void of clubs, particularly since East had overcalled with one heart instead of making a takeout double of one club.

Since all the evidence was against a club lead, West quite properly opened a diamond. This enabled East to take two tricks and thus defeat the slam before declarer could get started.

♥ CARD Sense ♠

Q—with both sides vulnerable, the bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Diamond	Double	?	

You, South, hold: Spade 5, Hearts K-6-3-2, Diamonds D-J-9-5-2, Clubs 7-6-4. What do you do?

A—Bid three diamonds. The double raise behind a takeout double is a shutout bid, showing very good trump support, a singleton or void suit, and perhaps 6 or 7 points in high cards.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spade 5, Hearts K-6, Diamonds Q-J-9-5-2, Clubs K-7-6-4-2. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

I AM deeply moved by the spontaneous and almost universal support given to my campaign for the modernisation of water-cress beds, and I——

Prodnose: What is this nonsense? You have never mentioned any such thing.

Myself: It is a drive to get more readers. Those who do not read this column, if their attention is caught today, will say, "Oh, look what we have been missing! I never knew he dealt with such interesting matters. We must watch this column every day."

Prodnose: But surely the interest in water-cress beds is not very widespread.

Myself: No. But any campaign about anything makes people eager to support or oppose it. And opposition and support are equally effective in getting the thing talked about.

A visit to the bank

MY fellow-hack Timothy Shy, writing of the new bank-hostesses who move gracefully among the customers, should visit the —— branch of the —— Bank in London. A radio above the door of the Manager's office plays dance music, and hostesses in evening gowns are prepared to dance with any waiting customer. There are small tables where drinks are served, and a visit to the bank becomes a social occasion. One hears snatches of intimate talk: "But, dear Mr Rockliffe, don't pay off your overdraft. We *adore* overdrafts. That's how we live." 'O.K. Miss Tennyson. If you say so." "Oh, good! Now, what about another Martini before the next samba?"

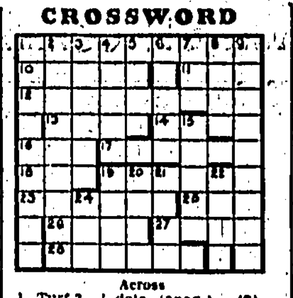
Nothing to do with me

THE tenants of certain council houses in Essex have been warned not to light fires, as, owing to a constructional fault, the houses would probably be burned down. In the same paper, I read complaints of people whose houses have been built back to front. Other items of planning for the winter, I hear, include houses without roofs, to allow smoke a wider egress than through the old-fashioned chimney. Also on show is a model house with the front door on the first floor, to prevent draughts in the rooms below. Houses built upside-down, to avoid the labour of going upstairs, are in the blueprint stage.

Leeds shows the way

LEEDS CORPORATION have ruled that inscriptions on gravestones in their cemetery must not contain more than 40 letters, "to prevent ostentation." To come into line with "the best contemporary thought," inscriptions should be in shorthand.

CROSSWORD



Across
1. Turf? I dote (anag.). (9)
10. Egg-shaped. (5)
11. Miss King of China? (3)
12. Later being backwards, I dined. (9)
13. Unusual. (4)
14. Fight in the rigging? (4)
15. Busy little thing. (3)
17. Often temporary, unpaid. (6)
18. It's got you, round the neck. (3)
19. May lead men to madness. . . . (6)
23. . . . Travellers should just do this to it. (6)
25. Fishermen and entomologists have this in common. (3)
26. Leander's girl friend. (4)
27. "Ah, reverend sir, ——" (Browning). (3, 1)
28. "I was one and ——. No use to talk to me." (Housman.) (6)

Down
1. We've heard about this kind of flying. (9)
2. The reverse isn't under day. (9)
3. Turn to in rate. (6)
4. Jewelled head-dress. (5)
5. Wild American airport. (4)
6. Stick or this is card problem. (5)
7. Girl with lunar fixation. (9)
8. Information, District Attorney, thanks! (4)
9. Cite Green . . . he's so forceful. (9)
16. Cottage or boudoir—there's a grand one for each. (5)
19. Oliver Six Down asked for this. (4)
20. Associated with a lot of 19 Down. (4)
21. Tear the landlord's takings. (4)
22. Obtains. (4)
24. The old order changeth, yielding place to —' (Tennyson). (3)

E	S	T	R	O	W	E	D	A
A	P	R	O	V	I	S	O	G
T	R	I	D	E	S	T	E	N
S	O	P	F	R	E	E	R	O
A	T	T	A	R	R	E	D	S
E	E	R	R	R	E	M	I	T
S	A	U	C	E	P	A	N	I
O	N	C	E	A	A	L	E	C
P	R	E	O	R	D	E	R	S

SOLUTION TO CHECK YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

BORN today, you have a high degree of self confidence which is not misplaced! The stars have given you many talents and if you develop them properly, you may become outstanding. You have a great sympathy and understanding for the so-called "underdog" and would be staunch champion of any cause planned for the betterment of those less fortunate than yourself. You will make personal sacrifices to make sure that those whom you are protecting are kept from harm.

This characteristic makes you a fine marriage partner and parent. You will be happiest if you wed early and have a large family of your own. Denied this, you will be apt to take on the burdens and heartbreak of the entire world. You are not so much the reformer, as you are the "big brother" or "big sister" who is always ready to stand by in times of crisis.

Since you have the gift of the written and spoken word, you might easily influence your times by your ability to influence others to fall in line with your programme of good works.

All this does not mean that you are an easy mark. You have a great distaste for those who are unsuccessful because they are lazy and are shirking a duty. But let anyone work hard and get the bad breaks—and you are ready to back up such an individual through thick and thin.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—There may be a few chores that need doing today. Get them done early in the morning.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Better get really started on your Christmas plans if you have not already done so before now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If you are a creative artist, you should find true inspiration today. Work out your ideas, too.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—It would be a good idea to get your gifts wrapped and mailed if they are going any distance.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—If there is work to be done, complete it today so that tomorrow can be spent enjoying yourself.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Plan your day carefully so that you can finish everything important that you have started. Get a lot done.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—If you are wise, you will clear up a lot of your detail work in connection with coming Christmas plans.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Might be a good time to give a last check up to your Christmas list. Could be, there are some additions!

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Make your future plans very carefully and then stick to them. That way, you can get a great deal accomplished.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Catch up on your correspondence if you are behind or, perhaps, write Christmas letters destined for far away.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—There are indications that this evening will be a pleasant one. Accept an invitation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Not a good time to be critical. If you must differ with someone, be very diplomatic about it.

DUMB-BELLS

WHAT'S HIS LINE?

T. PAYNE-PARRIS

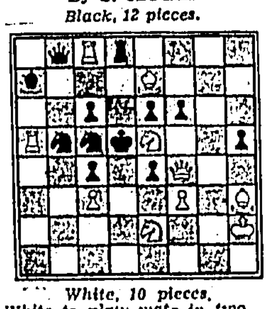
Re-arrange the letters to spell his occupation

(Solution on Page 10)

CHESS PROBLEM

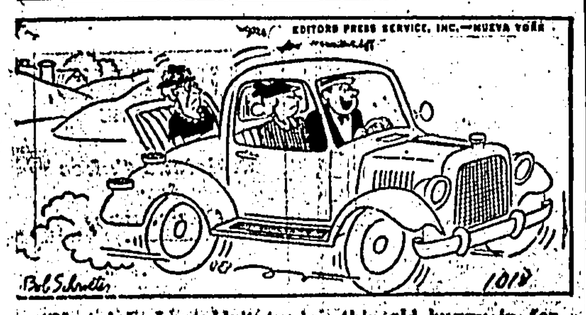
By S. SZOGHI

Black, 12 pieces.



White, 10 pieces.
White to play: mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:
1, B—B8, 1 . . . B—B2; 2, R—R6; 1 . . . B—Kt3; 2, B—R6; 1 . . . Kt—B2; 2, R—R5; 1 . . . Kt—Kt3; 2, R—K7.



"No, sir! I wouldn't trade this old buggy in for anything"

WOMANSENSE

Pepper and salt

—and add a pinch of brilliants . . .

IN NEW YORK they are wearing plain sweaters with pepper and salt tweed skirts, which get away from being conservative classics because they are embroidered all over with brilliants.

In PARIS, the newest of the new short evening coats is made in plain black and white tweed; cut with a low neckline and embroidered with hundreds of pin head-size diamonds.

It's the same in BERLIN. German designers follow up with sleeveless cocktail dresses made of black and white or pepper and salt tweed, with deep, off-the-shoulder or plunging neklines and scattered with big, glittering rhinestones or smaller brilliants.

Big rhinestones are spaced out over this Berlin-designed cocktail dress (above), which is made of thick tweed and features a corselet-moulded waist.

Jacques Heim's short evening coat (left) is embroidered with brilliants.

—(London Express Service)

Hidden Dividends For Wives Working Part-Time

By Anne Heywood

"I'VE examined the part-time job setup in my community," Ella K. announced, "and it's hopeless.

"Even if I do take one of the few jobs that are available, it will cost me just as much as I make, to hire someone to take care of my children. That's a losing proposition, isn't?"

Well, sometimes, it is. But sometimes it has a lot of hidden dividends.

For example, Lee S. is a young woman I know who gets real benefits from her part-time job. She used to be a bookkeeper. But then she married and had three children.

Gets Monotonous

"I love the children," Lee told me, "but it does get monotonous—every day exactly like the day before. One day, I looked in the mirror, and found to my horror that I looked like a drawn, tired drudge. And my hair was a mess. I began to remember how spruced up and interested I had always been when I was a business girl. That's how I had been when George married me. I began to realise that I was slipping."

Lee was no girl to sit and mourn. She decided to get a part-time job in bookkeeping again.

"Then, all of a sudden, I got a real brain storm," she told me. "I went to the big beauty salon in town, and asked if I could do their books one day a week. At first they said no, they couldn't afford it. The owner herself did the bookkeeping, but I could tell from talking with her that she was sick and tired of it.

"So I offered to do it six hours a week, in exchange for U.S. $4, plus the works—a shampoo, fingerwave and manicure. The owner leaped at the idea.

"Now I go every Tuesday, work on the books from nine until three-thirty, and then get beautified. I have to pay my baby sitter the money I earn, but it gives me a new lease on life. I not only get all the improvement in my appearance and the feeling of being attractive, but I also get a break in the week's activity. It's wonderful to get away from the house for one day a week—makes me anxious to get back, and I appreciate my children more. And also, of course, I'm keeping my bookkeeping skill from rusting. So who cares whether I make a financial profit or not? Believe me, there are other kinds of profits!"

If you feel that domesticity has you in a rut—and if you have a marketable skill—sometimes it pays to get a part-time job and hire someone to replace you at home while you work, even if every penny you make goes to the replacement.

A change of pace can sometimes take years off your age.

SPICY OVEN-COOKED MEAT DISHES

By ALICE DENHOFF

IT'S the time of year for oven-cooked dishes. Spicy, delicious meals send an aromatic invitation through the house, just right as appetites become sharper with the changing season.

Pork Patties and Apples

Baked Pork Sausage Patties and Apples is a hearty, satisfying dish that makes the most of a natural combination.

To serve 6, form into thin patties 2 lbs. pork sausage meat. Peel and slice 6 large apples. Alternate sausage patties and apples in a 2-qt. casserole making top layer of the meat patties. Bake at 350° F., with casserole covered for first 45 min., then remove cover to brown the top layer, and cook about 15 min. more.

A Steak Dish

For a good steak dish for 6, purchase 2½ lbs. round steak and have it cut 2 in. thick. Place in a pan and insert slices of a garlic clove into the beef. Cover with a bottle of chili sauce and season with salt and pepper to suit. Slice an onion in ¼-in. slices and place on top of meat. Bake at 350° F. for 1 hr.

Crowned Weiners

A crown roast is a grand affair but, unfortunately, it is on the expensive side. For a crown roast that isn't a budget-wrecker, try crowning weiners.

Use 24 ordinary weinies or 12 short ones. Arrange in vertical position around sides of 8-in. casserole. Press stuffing into centre of casserole, forming an elegant crown-roast effect. Bake at 375° F. for about 20 min. Yield, 8 servings.

To prepare the bran stuffing, combine 12 c. ¼-in. bread cubes and 1 c. all-bran. Saute 3 tbsp. minced onion in ½ c. melted fat, and add to bread. Add 2 tsp. salt, ½ tsp. each pepper and poultry seasoning and 1½ c. water or meat stock, mixing thoroughly.

Tale Of 13

STARKVILLE Miss.

No. 13 may be considered unlucky by some, but not by Joe Palmer.

Palmer has been manager of the barber shop in Mississippi State College's YMCA for 13 years. He lives in a house supported by 13 foundations and with 13 doors and 13 windows. His dining room, dining room, bedrooms and garage are each 13 feet wide; his porch, 13 feet long.

He has 13 nephews and nieces. He has been an officer in the local Masonic orders 13 times. Thirteen doctors have advised him to take it easy because of heart trouble, but he still works 13 hours a day.

Thirteen apprentice barbers trained by him have graduated from State and 13 part-time assistants have been graduated.—United Press.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

A Remarkable Hunting Trip

—Mr. Merlin Points Out Many Wild Animals—

By MAX TRELL

"I THINK," said Mr Merlin, the magician, "that I'll go hunting for some wild animals."

Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, were sitting on the garden wall when they heard Mr Merlin saying those words. They were surprised, on looking at Mr Merlin, to see that he was dressed in what appeared to be hunter's clothes. He had a peaked cap, a leather jacket, corduroy pants and high, laced boots.

"And," added Mr Merlin, "if you two children care to come along with me as assistant-hunters, I'd be delighted to have you."

Would Be Delighted

Knarf and Hanid both promptly answered that they would be delighted to be assistant-hunters to Mr Merlin, the magician.

"Only," said Knarf, "we haven't any hunting clothes, like you have."

"Nothing to it," replied Mr Merlin. "I'll get them for you in twink-wink of an eye."

Mr Merlin muttered some magical words which sounded like boogiewoogiewahwah-iggiewiggiehahhah (though, of course, those weren't really the words). Instantly Knarf and Hanid found themselves dressed in hunter's clothes.

"All right," said Mr Merlin, when he looked at them. "We're all ready! Oh, wait a minute, there's one thing more."

What Next?

Knarf and Hanid wondered what Mr Merlin was going to do next.

What he did next was to make them all, himself included, as small as a pin.

"My goodness!" exclaimed Hanid. "Why did you make us so small, Mr Merlin?"

"Because we have to be this size to go hunting for the kind of animals that we're going to go hunting for."

Knarf and Hanid wanted to know what kind of animals Mr Merlin meant, but he just smiled and said: "You'll see!"

So off they started, going into the grass that rose over their heads like a jungle. Mr Merlin soon found a tiny trail, and they both tip-toed behind him, not saying anything, but keeping a watchful gaze on all sides for any wild animals that might be prowling around.

Crept Forward Suddenly

Suddenly Mr Merlin raised his hand and said in a hoarse whisper: "Sh-h! I see a kangaroo!" They crept forward slowly.

There, in front of them, quietly nibbling the clover leaves, was an enormous beast. It was brownish green, had a round head, with great round eyes and two horns. It had four front legs, but it was the two back legs which were remarkable. They were bigger than the animal itself and very powerful. It also had a pair of wings.

Knarf and Hanid and Mr Merlin were about to lasso it, when all at once it heard them. The next moment it sprang into the air, pushing up with its wonderful back legs. It went higher than any kangaroo that ever was.

"Why," exclaimed Knarf. "That wasn't any kangaroo! That was a grasshopper!"

But Mr Merlin didn't say anything. He just smiled.

Many Strange Animals

The three hunters met many other strange (and somehow familiar) animals on their expedition. They met a snake that looked like a caterpillar, a bear that looked like a beetle, a hyena that looked like an ant, a lobster that looked like a spider, a dragon that looked like a frog.

Mr. Merlin was wearing a real hunter's costume.

But the most astonishing animal of all was an enormous black panther with green eyes.

It looked exactly like a kitten!

Later, when they came home again, for they didn't manage to catch anything at all, Knarf said: "But none of those were wild animals at all, Mr Merlin!"

"Really?" said Mr Merlin. "They looked wild enough to me. And if we were always the size of a pin, we'd always think they were as wild as any lion, tiger, zebra, elephant, or giraffe that any hunter ever hunted for!"

Rupert's Coral Island—28

Giving one startled glance, the fish flops back into the water and disappears into the depths. "That's the first moving thing I've seen since I arrived," says Rupert. "I wish it would come back." But the fish does not return, so he climbs up through the cleft and out into the open air. Now a fresh problem meets him, for the island is such a mass of odd shapes that he cannot remember which way he first came, and he cannot see the boat.

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SPLENDID NEWS!

FOR THE SHOPPING PUBLIC

IN RESPONSE TO NUMEROUS REQUESTS AND TO ASSIST THOSE WHO WISH TO SHOP WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, OUR STORES WILL REMAIN OPEN ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS.

NEW HOURS OF BUSINESS

Hong Kong Store 8.45 a.m. To 5 p.m.
Kowloon Store 9 a.m. To 6 p.m.

DAILY
MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS INCLUSIVE

Whiteaways
HONGKONG & KOWLOON

•WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO. LTD•

SPARKLING EXHIBITION OF WORLD CLASS BADMINTON BY PENG-SOON & CO.

By "ARGONAUT"

Sparkling world class badminton was again enjoyed by Hongkong enthusiasts yesterday when the unofficial World Champion, Wong Peng-soon, and his three Malayan top-ranking teammates opened their Hongkong series of exhibition matches at the newly-constructed Macpherson Playground.

Despite atrocious weather conditions, the visitors put up an excellent show. Their almost perfect control of the shuttle enabled them not only to nullify to a great extent the effects of heavy cross-winds but also to adapt their play to the conditions.

The HKBA Committee, however, who are having their first experience in staging a match at the Macpherson Playground are hoping that they will be able to have the exposed parts of the stadium covered up before the next match so that the players will be able to give of their best.

Highlight of last night's games was the two-set exhibition match between Wong and the next ranking Malayan singles player, Lim Koon-yam. Although Wong won by 18-15 and 15-3, the lightly built Lim fully extended the Champion in the first set.

The Malayan runner-up made up for his lack of build with two of the fastest feet yet seen on a local court. His shots appeared deceptively soft but had that all-important requirement of being placed at the right spot and at the right moment.

Wong had little scope to exhibit his all-round classical strokes and after trying hard to do so in the first set, switched to aggressive badminton, scoring repeatedly with powerful smashes and deep drop shots.

Lim took an early lead of 4-2 and 6-2 in the first set, but Wong passed him at 6-6 and went on to 8-6. Lim then overtook the Champion and forged on to 10-8 but could not shake off his opponent who drew level at 10-10, 12-12, and 13-13. Wong went on to take the first set by 18-15.

The second set, however, saw Wong utilising the advantage of playing against the wind to the full and tiletating matters against a tiring Lim to win by 15-3.

YOUNG WINS SET

Colony Champion Ramon Young yesterday earned himself the special distinction of winning his first set against a Malayan Thomas Cupper. After losing the first set by 0-15, during which his opponent Abdullah Piruz was all over him with accurate net shots and strong smashes, Young put up a strong fight in the second.

With the wind behind him, Piruz found it extremely difficult to get his smashes in. Although a number of points came from the Malayan player's errors, Young played a brainy game of concentrating on the net in winning the second set by 18-17 in a thrilling finish.

The night's games concluded with a brilliant exhibition of men's doubles play by all the four players. In what turned out to be an Inter-State match between Selangor and Johore, Wong and Cheong Hock-leng had the better of Piruz and Lim Koon-yam by 18-15 and 15-3.

All the four players kept up a sustained attacking game at high speed and play reached an extremely high standard in the first set.

Piruz was unlucky to sustain an ankle injury during the game and was a little handicapped in the second set.

THE SCORES

Men's Singles

Abdullah Piruz drew with Ramon Young 15-0; 17-18.

Wong Peng-soon beat Lim Koon-yam 18-15, 15-3.

Mixed Doubles

Piruz & Ullian Khoo drew with Cheong Hock-leng & Winnie Cheung 15-8, 12-15.

Men's Doubles

Wong Peng-soon & Cheong Hock-leng beat Lim Koon-yam & Abdullah Piruz 18-15, 15-2.

TOMORROW'S GAMES

At Macpherson Stadium at 3 p.m.

Men's Doubles

Cheong Hock-leng & Long Hin-jok v Lim Koon-yam & E. Marquez-Lim.

Men's Singles

Wong Peng-soon v Ramon Young.

Mixed Doubles

Wong Peng-soon & Miss Mary Wong v A. Piruz & Miss Bernadine Remedios.

Men's Singles

Siu Chuen (Queen's College) v Ko Wai-bong (Chin Hua).

Men's Doubles

Wong Peng-soon & A. Piruz v Cheong Hock-leng & Lim Koon-yam.

SUNDAY, AT 7.30 P.M.

Men's Singles

Cheong Hock-leng v Bill Funk.

Wong Peng-soon v A. Piruz.

Ladies' Doubles

Ullian Khoo & Winnie Cheung v Helen Kwong & Elvie Tsok.

Mixed Doubles

Lim Koon-yam & Dorothy Lam v A. Piruz & Stella Correa.

Men's Doubles

Wong Peng-soon & Lim Koon-yam v A. Piruz & Cheong Hock-leng.

FARMER JACK ON COMEBACK TRAIL

Jack Gardner, the British Heavyweight Champion until he gave up the gloves for farming, is due to return to the ring when he fights at Harringay on December 8. He and Don Cockell are both managed by John Simpson, who will have a problem if these two meet for the title! This picture was taken during a training session at Market Harborough, Leicestershire. — Central Press Photo.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

The Hongkong Jockey Club's Fifth Race Meeting of the season will be held over two consecutive Saturday afternoons, the first tomorrow and the second on December 12.

Each afternoon's programme will consist of eight events, with no change in the time of starting.

The best event tomorrow is the Galway Handicap while on December 12 the Hongkong Autumn Champions and the Sports Club Jubilee Cup will form the main attraction.

Here are my estimates of the chances:

FIRST RACE

Epsom Handicap (First Section): One Mile

The opening race is confined to Class 6 ponies. United Victory (Mr C. F. Ng) is given top weight of 159 lbs. and on that account I think it can be left alone.

Ringway (Mr Boycott) came third in the Rob Roy Handicap at the last meeting over the champion distance and as it is in good condition at the moment I think its chances of winning here are rather bright.

No Regrets (Mr F. Noodt), which ran unplaced in the above race, can be depended on to make a good fight of it.

Aan Hing (Mr Kwok) is another pony to watch, as it is improving and a win is not beyond its capabilities.

Diana (Mr Samareq) is also a likely winner as it is in good form.

SECOND RACE

Laytown Handicap: Six Furlongs

This will be contested by Class 7 ponies. Hurry On (Mr Boycott) and Santa Claus (Mr Williamson) are my selections for this sprint race. Both are fast and fit and should be prominent from the word "go".

There are many other potential winners. Comet (Mr Kwok) and Jennifer (Mr Plumbly) rre both primed up for top effort and should be very close at the finish.

Bright Bay (Mr H. K. Hung) can easily surprise in a slower run race as could. The Hopeful (Mr Ip Kui-ying), who is better suited to longer distances. A good outsider is Fighting Spirit (Mr T. L. Wong).

THIRD RACE

Epsom Handicap (Second Section) One Mile

The second lot of Class 6 ponies will try conclusions here. Free Kick (Mr Ng) is carrying 153 lbs. which may not be too much of a handicap. In view of its second placing in the Rob Roy Handicap at the last meeting over 1-1/4 miles, it certainly stands a good chance of winning.

How Do I Know, with Mr C. L. Liu on top, is good over this distance and should have a say here.

Star-glo (Mr Kwok) and Pearl of Hongkong (Mr Samareq) are also dangerous, but for those who are looking for an outsider I would recommend Corrib (Mr Ostroumoff).

FOURTH RACE

Leopardstown Handicap: One Mile

There is sure to be a big field for this event and on current form I think Flaming Wheel (Mr H. K. Chuang) and Royal Command (Mr Chen Poo) are the ones to put your money on.

Pearl Diver (Mr A. Noodt) is fighting fit at the moment and could be very close at the finish.

Madame Butterfly (Mr Ng) and Tune-phone (Mr C. A. Lee) are all quite capable of scoring in this company.

FIFTH RACE

Folkestone Handicap: From 1¼ Mile Post

A galaxy of sprinters will contest this race for Class 5 ponies. This will be a dash over approximately five furlongs and a truly touch and go finish is in prospect.

As Phoenix (Mr C. A. Lee) won the Salisbury Handicap (Second Section) for Class 8 ponies at the 2nd Race Meeting with ease, this pony must be marked down as "definitely dangerous".

I like Dig' empots (Mr H. K. Chuang) for this sprint too. Although getting on in years, this brown gelding is a very game animal and may pay its supporters a good price.

Marine Charger (Mr Tsai) has shown improved form in morning trials and Cornhill (Mr Samareq) and Queen Helen, (Mr Shih) could also win without causing much in the way of a sensation.

Hiram C (Mr Ng) and Wodonga (Mr Plumbly) are worth following.

SIXTH RACE

Proudstown Handicap (First Section) One Mile

This race is confined to Class 9 ponies. Looking over the entries, it would appear that The Gazelle (Mr Samareq) is the logical choice for the first position.

Huntington (Mr Boycott) has shown rapid improvement during morning gallops and should be very near at the finish.

Attractive Power (Mr Wai) is coming along nicely but I cannot see it beating the above-mentioned ponies and the best it can do is take third place.

For those looking for an outsider, First Lady (Mr Yen Ching-lan) is the pony.

SEVENTH RACE

Galway Handicap: From 2 Mile Post

Beautiful Star (Mr Tsai) has impressed in its morning gallops to warrant consideration in this nine-furlong race and is knocking at the door of success.

Say When's chances here are good and if Mr Plumbly can handle this animal well enough it should figure prominently at the finish.

Another pony which has attracted some attention during morning gallops is Vagabond King (Mr F. Noodt).

Both Air Power (Mr C. A. Lee) and Winning Rush (Mr Auchnie) have outside chances to score.

EIGHTH RACE

Proudstown Handicap (Second Section): One Mile

This is the last race of the day and will be contested by second section of Class 9 ponies.

Laddie (Mr Chuang) will certainly command most support for its chances to score are enormous. This pony finished third in the Violet Hill Handicap over 1¼ miles at the 3rd Race Meeting with Mr H. K. Hung up. It will find the mile more suitable and is expected to beat a very fit Magpie (Mr Botelho) in a close finish.

The chances of Bright Knight (Mr Ng), despite its poor performance the last time out, should not be disregarded.

Ironside (Mr Ostroumoff) is worth following as an outsider.

Heroes' Welcome

Vienna, Dec. 3.

A cheering crowd at Budapest's specially decorated railway station today welcomed home the Hungarian football team which beat England by six goals to three in London, Budapest Radio reported.

The station was hung with flags and streamers to greet "the world's greatest footballers." According to Hungarian newspapers a new celebration stamp will be on sale throughout Hungary tomorrow. — China Mail Special.

Commonwealth Team Score 286 For 4 In Bombay "Test"

Bombay, Dec. 3.

The Commonwealth touring team had scored 286 for four wickets at the close of the first day's play in the second "Test" against India today.

Reggie Simpson completed the first Commonwealth century of the series in 3¼ hours, but his innings ended just before tea at 121.

The Commonwealth touring team made a confident start to the second "Test" against India today, scoring 103 for one wicket by lunch.

The teams were:

India.—P. Umrigar, V. Mankad, C. V. Godkari, G. R. Sunderam, V. Manjrekar, V. S. Hazare, G. S. Ramchand, C. D. Gopinath, T. S. Tahmane, S. P. Gupte, L. Patel.

Commonwealth.—R. T. Simpson, D. G. W. Fletcher, K. Meuleman, D. Barrick, S. J. Loxton, B. A. Barnett, S. Ramadhin, P. J. Loader, R. Berry, R. W. Marshall, F. M. Worrell.

Simpson and David Fletcher opened the innings and stayed together until the partnership was one short of a century. Then Fletcher, a last-minute selection, was bowled by Mankad for 35.

Mankad thus atoned for dropping Fletcher at short square leg when the Surrey man was only six.

TWO CHANGES

The Commonwealth team showed only two changes from the side beaten by an innings in the first "Test" — Desmond Barrick and Fletcher replacing Geoff Edrich and George Emmett.

Simpson and Fletcher comfortably played the Indian bowlers, Sunderam and Ramchand, scoring 22 runs in the first half hour. After only six overs each, they were replaced by Mankad, Jasu Patel and S. P. Gupte.

Patel, who is deadly on a mat surface, should have secured an early wicket when Mankad dropped a catch off Fletcher. It appeared an easy chance.

Simpson did the bulk of the scoring, lifting any loose balls to vacant spots in the outfield and once smote Gupte for six.

The batsmen appeared to be getting on top when Mankad bowled Fletcher around his legs. The Surrey opener hit a six and four fours.

The Australian, Ken Meuleman, joined Simpson to play out time to lunch, when Simpson was 63 not out.

Simpson and Meuleman played themselves in cautiously after lunch and then Simpson began to force the pace. The Australian, trying to emulate his partner, gave a difficult chance to Ramchand at square leg off Mankad, when he was 17 and the total 143.

Simpson had an escape at 96 made out of 164, when Gupte at square leg failed to hold a faulty turn to leg. Patel, playing in his first Test, was again the bowler.

GRAND CATCH

The Nottinghamshire Captain completed his century in 3¼ hours but his splendid innings ended just before the tea interval when Patel held a grand low catch off Mankad. Simpson included a six and 12 boundaries in his 121, and with Meuleman, put on 107.

Meuleman continued sedately and at tea was two short of a half century.

The Indian bowlers were more successful after tea. When the new ball was taken, the Commonwealth lost two wickets in 17 minutes for the addition of 16 runs.

Meuleman, after completing 50 out of 129 in 142 minutes, snicked a ball from Ramchand into Tahmane's gloves.

Marshall, when only four, also snicked Ramchand, but Hazare at first slip failed to stop up the chance.

Worrell gave Gopinath deep at fine leg an easy catch when he mishookod a bumper from Sunderam.

THE SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard:

Commonwealth, 1st Inns

Simpson c Patel b Mankad	121
Fletcher b Mankad	35
Meuleman c Tahmane b Ramchand	50
Worrell c Gopinath b Sunderam	22
Marshall not out	33
Barrick not out	14
Extras	6
Total (for four wickets)	286

—Reuter.

New Zealand Off-Spinner Does Well

Pretoria, Dec. 3.

Matt Poore, New Zealand off-spinner, strengthened his claims for inclusion in the Test side today when he took six wickets for 47 runs—the best performance of the tour so far—against North Eastern Transvaal here.

Poore was chiefly responsible for the collapse of North Eastern Transvaal who, after being 94 for one, were all out for 177 shortly before the close on the first day of the two-day match.

The New Zealanders replied with 20 for no wicket before stumps were drawn.

The last eight Transvaal wickets fell for 57, Poore claiming all his victims during this period. His final figures were 24 overs, 10 maidens, 47 runs, six wickets.

Previously Poore had been given only ten overs in two matches.

Scores: Transvaal 177 (P. Davis 49, C. Kirton 53, W. Hall not out 33; M. Poore six for 47, J. Reid two for six). New Zealanders 20 for no wicket.

The first Test is due to begin at Durban on December 11.—China Mail Special.

Jack Dempsey Announces His Engagement

New York, Dec. 3.

Jack Dempsey, former World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, today announced his engagement to 42-year-old widowed millionairess, Estelle Auguste of Palm Beach, Florida.

Aged 58, this is Dempsey's third marriage. The old "Manassa Mauler," who is reckoned by many to have been the greatest Heavyweight Champion of all time, made the announcement of his forthcoming marriage in Mrs Auguste's New York apartment.

The Mrs Dempsey-to-be has been married twice. Her last husband, a banker, who died recently, left her a fortune believed to be around $40 million.

Since retiring from the ring after his second defeat by Gene Tunney, Dempsey has made a great success of his restaurant in New York, which is the centre for all sporting celebrities.

Still physically fit, Dempsey often referees boxing and wrestling matches and recently showed that he had lost none of his old skill when he knocked out a wrestler, who had attacked him in the ring.—France-Press.

HOME RUGGER

Oxford, Dec. 3.

Hertfordshire beat Oxfordshire 17 points to five in a Rugby Union County Championship match played here today.—Reuter.

The jumping season in Britain is here again. Racing expert Tattenham, who last season on a level stake of £1 showed a profit of £39.10s. with his naps, gives his list of 12 horses to follow.

MARINER'S LOG LEADS THE 12

George Beeby is not a man to overrate horses. But how his face lights up if you mention Lord Bicester's Mariner's Log, who has just joined his stable from Ireland.

Mariner's Log figures in the King George VI 'Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day as a stepping-stone to the Gold Cup.

MARINER'S LOG, still only a six-year-old was the Lanveoc Poulmic of Ireland last season—a raw, overgrown baby with championship potential.

ROSE PARK will keep the best of them busy in the Cheltenham Gold Cup next March.

COOLROCK ran up a sequence of seven wins before breaking down two seasons ago. He jumped with all the old verve in his first race for 13 months.

FREE LANCER, a staying ex-Irishman with Grand National promise, is slow-maturing, like his full brother Freebooter.

RED RUBE stays well, revels in the mud, and is as honest as the day. Sure to win races if not asked to fly too high.

TIBER FLIGHT wins his "quota" every year. A specialist at Wye and Plumpton, he always guarantees a good run.

VERMILLON combines class with the dourness that so often sways the issue. Can be followed over timber or fences.

NUAGE DORE, stable mate of Vermillion, is a jumper with Champion Hurdle aspirations.

RENDEZVOUS III has the same ultimate target as Nuage Dore, but they may not meet before Cheltenham.

MASTER ROCKY was bought "on impulse" by Neville Crump. Already a good servant on the flat, he should prove even better over hurdles.

LORELEY, judged from his present handicap position, should be off the mark next time out.

ZEUS II is a chancey sort, but liable to pop in selling hurdles at a useful price.

—(London Express Service)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Well Played!

Sir,—I think "Tommy Atkins" in his Army Sports Gossip of today's date, 3rd Dec., might have made mention of the R.A.P.C. and their effort in the P.T. Competition. It is to be remembered that the unit, besides being small, is one that has a sedentary occupation in the "tail" of the Service and yet they can compete with and defeat, many units who are in the "teeth" of the Force. In this competition they were only a quarter of a point behind the H.K. Signal Regt. who were second. Well played one of the Minor Units.

"FAIR PLAY."

Snooker League

Eastern "B" beat the Kowloon Cricket Club by three matches to two in a Geo. Younger Snooker League match played last night.

Questions On Gay Time In House Of Commons

London, Dec. 4.

The Minister of Agriculture, Sir Thomas Dugdale, told the House of Commons last night that the Government had followed the advice of experts in selling the famous racehorse Gay Time to Japan for £15,000 after having bought it for the National Stud for £50,000.

Gay Time finished three-quarters of a length behind the Aga Khan's Tulyar last year in Britain's most famous race—the Epsom Derby. Tulyar was later sold to the Irish National Stud for £250,000.

Answering a question by a Conservative member, Mr R. F. Crouch, the Minister said Gay Time was bought for the National Stud after consultation with a small informal committee appointed to advise on the selection of stallions.

The racehorse was sold on the advice of several prominent breeders, including members of the Committee.

SATISFIED

Asked if he was completely satisfied in the way in which advice was given, and whether he thought there should be an inquiry into the running of the National Stud, the Minister said: "I am absolutely satisfied so far as that horse is concerned. When any horse is discussed, there are many opinions."

Mr Eric Johnson, another Conservative member, asked What was the nature of the allment which led to the decision that Gay Time was not suitable to be kept as a stallion at the National Stud.

Sir Thomas Dugdale told him that Gay Time developed an obstruction in the throat which seriously reduced his intake of air when galloping and made him unfit to race.

Veterinary surgeons who examined the horse did not think the symptoms were those commonly associated with laryngeal paralysis, namely, whistling or roaring.

Mr Johnson, then asked: "Is there a ready market in Japan for horses which have been in the wind, and if so, will the Minister make that known to owners of such horses?"

Sir Thomas Dugdale said the reports were made available to the Japanese Government and those reports said the stallion was suitable for breeding.—China Mail Special.

THE GAMBOLS . . . By Barry Appleby

BLUE BAND MARGARINE for Delicious Cakes for Christmas

Obtainable from THE DAIRY FARM and all leading compradores.

WEEK-END CRICKET TEAMS

The following are the Club selections for cricket League fixtures this week-end:

HKCC

1st Division HKCC Scorpions v Recreio tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Chater Road.—T. A. Pearce (Captain), I. Stanton, T. G. C. Knight, J. Borthwick, F. A. Weller, H. Owen-Hughes, D. W. Leach, P. L. Holmes, K. M. Campbell, V. O. Roberts, D. J. Hill.

1st Division HKCC Optimists v XXX on Sunday at 12 noon at Chater Road.—L. D. Kilbee, G. T. Rowe, R. W. Franklin, T. P. Mahon, R. H. Hughes, G. H. P. Pritchard, K. G. Spink, R. M. Macpherson, F. van Corde, C. J. B. Leader, J. L. Flitcroft; 12th man, P. J. Harvey. Umpire, R. R. Davies; scorer R. McAdam.

Dockyard RCC

2nd Division DRCC v KCC "B" tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Cox's Path and v Army "B" on Sunday at 1 p.m. at Sookunpoo.—C. L. Hughes (Captain), G. Horley, J. W. Adie, G. W. Harvey, R. Horwood, W. James, R. Knapp, D. L. Back, K. Matthews, J. Barber, D. Sutcliffe; 12th man, A. N. Other. Umpire, R. R. Cooper.

Army

1st Division Army "A" v CCC tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at CCC.—V. S. Baily, A. O. Kirby, J. D. F. Alexander, S. T. De Cruz, P. C. Farmer-Wright, R. E. A. Steward, A. G. Weir, W. Packenham-Walsh, J. K. Gingell, T. A. Pargetter, T. G. Dowling.

Transport will leave Queen's Pier at 1 p.m.

Any one unable to play should inform Capt Pierce, Force 471, immediately.

2nd Division Army "B" v DBS to-morrow at 1.30 p.m. at Sookunpoo and v DRCC n Sunday at 1 p.m. at Sookunpoo. — Majors Bennett, Dudley, McCosh, Evans, Arkle, Chubb, Capts Dewar, Pierce, 2/Lts Cochrane, Thorne, Gnr Bonsall; 12th man, Capt Beeston. Umpire, Sgt George; scorer, Mrs Chubb.

Transport will leave Queen's Pier at 1 p.m. to-morrow and 12.30 p.m. on Sunday.

Any one unable to play should inform Major Bennett (Kowloon Exchange).

Craigengower

1st Division CCC v Army "A" tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at CCC.—G. Hong Choy, G. A. Souza, W. H. E. Colledge, K. Y. Tam, G. Saunders, D. Readman, P. J. Billimoria, H. Madar, M. Singh, B. P. Dhadber, S. P. Karanjia.

1st Division CCC v HKCC Optimists on Sunday at 12 noon at Chater Road.—G. Hong Choy, G. A. Souza, W. H. E. Colledge, K. Y. Tam, G. Saunders, B. N. Hedge, P. J. Billimoria, H. Madar, M. J. Divecha, D. Readman, S. P. Karanjia.

Indian RC

1st Division IRC v RAF tomorrow at 1.30 p.m. at Sookunpoo.—A. R. Kitchell, E. Minu, A. H. Ismail, M. U. Moliddeen, M. Yusuf Samad, A. R. Abbas, S. E. M. Bux, A. M. Omar, J. C. Koh, A. K. Markar, Ador A. Rumjahn. Umpire, K. M. Omar; scorer, A. Rashid Abbas.

2nd Division IRC v Police on Sunday at 1.30 p.m. at Happy Valley.—F. M. el Arculli, M. Yaqub Samad, A. R. Razack, M. A. Wahab, R. K. Lalchandani, A. S. Ramjahn, Arthur A. A. Rumjahn, R. Omar, Ali Khan, Adam Khan, M. M. Samy. Umpire, M. Yusuf Samad; scorer, A. Rashid Abbas.

Belgium Lead India 2-0

Perth, W. Australia, Dec. 3.

Belgium gained a 2-0 lead today in their Davis Cup inter-zone tie, defeating India in both singles.

Philippe Washer, the Belgian No. 1, beat the Indian champion, Sumant Misra, by 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, while Jackie Brichant, Belgium's No. 2, defeated Ramanath Krishnan, India's junior champion, by 3-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-0.

The winners of the tie will qualify to meet the United States for the right to challenge Australia, the holders of the trophy.—Reuter.

AUSTRALIA'S TEAM

Melbourne, Dec. 3.

Harry Hopman, Australia's non-playing Davis Cup captain, today named seven tennis players who, he said, appeared "almost certain to be Australia's Davis Cup squad."

Writing in the Melbourne Herald, Hopman said these players were Ken Rosewall, Lew Hoad, Mervyn Rose, Rex Hartwig, Clive Wilderspin, George Worthington and Neale Fraser.—Reuter.

VICTORIA TOURNEY

Melbourne, Dec. 3.

Australia's two top lawn tennis stars, Ken Rosewall and Lewis Hoad, will fight out the men's singles final in the Victorian State Championships.

In the semi-finals to-day, Rosewall defeated George Worthington 6-1, 2-6, 6-0, 6-1, and Hoad defeated Rex Hartwig 2-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Last month Hoad beat Rosewall in the singles final of the New South Wales State Championship.—Reuter.

Rugger Teams

The following are the Club team selections for coming rugby matches:

Club "B" XV v A.A. Workshops REME tomorrow at 4 p.m. at Happy Valley.—Daniel, Ingles, Dick, Baird, Cole, Kirkwood, Roberts, Flaxman, Pink, Wilson, Cooke, Berger, Phillipson, Laville, Leighton; reserves, Spencer, Bell, Steven, Dilworth.

Club "B" XV v 79 Coy RASC (Water Tpt) on Wednesday at 5.15 p.m. at Club.—Taylor, Spencer, McRae, Luke, Slevin, Lindsay, Watson, Bell, Rankin, Laville, Dilworth, Steven, Flitcroft, Anedell, Kilvert, Russell, "Popham."

RAF XV v Club "A" tomorrow at 3 p.m. at Police Ground, Boundary Street, to be chosen from the following.—Donald, Hunt, Balderson, Hampson, Parkers, Gemmon, McClellan, Milden, Sutcliffe, James, Chapman, Brightwell, Edwards, Griffiths, Hewitt, Clayton, Davis, Bagshaw.

CROSS COUNTRY ROMANCE

An athletic romance has flourished at the Ilford (Essex) Athletic Club, two members of which recently announced their engagement. They are 19-year-old Phyllis Green and 24-year-old Alan Perkins, both Champions in their own right.

Phyllis is the Essex Cross Country Champion, twice winner of the National Cross Country Championship and Southern Counties Cross Country Champion for the past three years.

Her fiance is the Essex Six Miles Champion and North of the Thames Cross Country Champion and they are now training together at Cricklefields Sports Ground, Ilford, in preparation for forthcoming events.

SHOW TALK *by* HAROLD CONWAY

I Admit I Was Foolish, Says David Farrar

David Farrar, big-game hunter with a black heart, hung his native servant over a snake pit—at Elstree Studios.

The morning's sport over, he joined his Hollywood co-stars, Jeanne Crain and Dana Andrews, for a social cocktail-scene in his Rhodesian bungalow.

It was a normal working day in the production of "Duel In The Jungle" but the occasion held a special significance for Farrar. It is two and a half years since he last worked in any film studio.

DAVID FARRAR and JEANNE CRAIN
For him, special significance.

The one-time newspaper office boy, who looked like becoming the top actor of the British screen, has spent those years pondering the pitfalls of success.

"I worked long and hard before that success came my way; then it came too suddenly," admitted Farrar. "I suppose I behaved, and sometimes spoke, rather foolishly. Now I know better."

This was a transformation indeed from the self-opinionated Farrar of a few years ago; from the rugged-faced, handsome-torsoed hero of "Black Narcissus," who found himself the most sought-after actor in the profession. Who earned £43,000 in one year (less £37,000 tax), claimed a bigger fan-mail than James Mason, at 3,000 letters a week—and had a David Farrar Fan Club, with a monthly magazine, organised in devotion to him.

OFF HE WENT

Was Mr Farrar, the up-coming-and-arrived star, content with all this?

Not a bit of it: off he went to Hollywood, in quest of the "real recognition" he considered his due. When, six months later, he returned — "the call of patriotism" — Wardour Street had lost interest.

Mason and Stewart Granger had already walked out the same way; Wardour Street was now prepared to take the loss of Mr Farrar in its stride.

"Of course, I had got ambitious and mistaken ideas about myself," says Farrar. "I refused all chances of becoming a contract star, imagining that as a free-lance, I could pick, and choose better stories for myself. But when I returned to England the film slump was on—and the studios wanted to look after their own actors.

ONE IS ENOUGH

"I am not blaming them; not any longer, that is. I suppose I asked for trouble. Now I have had leisure to reconsider my ideas; a regular contract—and the prospect of regular work—might be very pleasant."

David Farrar re-enters a studio at the age of 45. ("A youthful-looking 45, don't you think?" I agreed with him.) A few years ago he employed three secretaries to handle his fan-mail; now he finds one sufficient.

"Though, mind you, the mail is still coming in," he said—showing me, with a flash of the old pride, some of that day's samples from India, Canada, Finland and the Argentine. "My old pictures are getting around, you see."

'TACT, MY BOY'

On the present Elstree picture, Farrar—in addition to acting the villain—has the title of Dialogue Director. He is not quite certain how his American co-stars and veteran Hollywood director George Marshall (over 300 films to his credit) regard the appointment.

"When I am not acting a scene myself, I lurk quietly behind the camera and occasionally — very occasionally — whisper apologetic suggestions to the director himself," says Farrar. "Tact, my boy, that is what I am learning—Tact ..."

HOLLYWOOD HEADLINES

Shakespeare Would Have Been Grateful

Says JENNIFER JOHNS

Hollywood.

If Shakespeare could only have been around here these last few months I am sure the venerable bard would have readily given his innermost life story to the screen as a token of gratitude for all the trouble that MGM has taken to "sell" his "Julius Caesar."

Shakespeare is to Hollywood what a flame is to a moth. It knows that, to the cinema public as a whole, the very word Shakespeare has all the terror of a return to school. It knows that—here in America at any rate—Shakespeare and the Box Office get along like oil and water. Yet, for all this, Hollywood can't resist the magic flame of the works of the master.

In this case, all that MGM's moth could do, having flown right into the thick of things and made "Julius Caesar" was to take precautions and wear asbestos wings.

This MGM did six months ago confining "Julius Caesar" to just one theatre—in New York. The idea being that the fame of the film should seep across the country on its own before a general release. As a final precaution MGM also brought in **Marlon Brando.**

Today, six months after the New York premiere, the MGM experts are satisfied that between them, Messrs. Brando and Shakespeare (MGM's order, not mine!) have made "Julius Caesar" a safe box-office bet. They also add—just in case anyone should get the idea that they are thinking only in terms of box-office receipts—that, judging by the New York showing, more than 10 million high school and college students will see "Julius Caesar" now during its national run. This, to MGM, is playing the schoolteacher in a big way and most probably just what the Stratford genius had in mind all along.

SMOGGED OUT

Jack Carson has put quite a lot of money, even by Hollywood standards, into a new swimming pool. Now he's complaining that, thanks to smog, he can't see it half the time. From Paris **Olivia de Havilland** has cabled instructions home that she wants to give up her flat here. Says she is remaining in Paris longer than she thought. It's the long thoughts that make marriages.

A pair of shoes worn by **Ed Wynn** the first time he went on the stage is insured by Lloyds of London for over £3,000. Ed says he has just spent £1,000 having them repaired. As they have to last him every show he appears in I suppose it's worth it. More so as the only time he didn't wear them was in a Broadway show which flopped after its first night.

Jeanne Crain and **Dana Andrews**, after winding up "Duel in the Jungle" in London, are heading back home for holidays with their respective children!

Richard Widmark, adding to a new farm which he has just bought in Massachusetts, now owns a smart station wagon. He hopes to drive it East soon.

Robert Wagner (he's still in his early 20's) has become an uncle for the third time.

Jay Robinson (Caligula in 'The Robe') back from his first trip to Las Vegas, describes the gambling city as a "revolving door with built-in slot machines." To me it just seemed like one big slot-machine.

MEETING AUDREY

Believing that the tumult and the shouting around "Roman Holiday" (or rather around new star **Audrey Hepburn**) has now died down sufficiently to allow me to slip in a word of temperance without getting my column cut off, herewith a few lines about my first meeting with Audrey.

It happened on a Paramount lot the other day when I watched Audrey at work making "Sabrina Fair"—which, incidentally, won't be called that at all. More likely: "The Chauffeur's Daughter". If the farmer doesn't object.

But back to Audrey. **Humphrey Bogart** and **William Holden**, the film's other two principals, weren't around on this particular day so it was Audrey all by herself.

The first thing that struck me was that either Audrey is putting on an act all of the time or she is taking her fame more gracefully than any other star I have ever known. The former is impossible in any star. The latter — in Audrey's case—is just plain common sense.

Audrey isn't a star yet and she herself admits it. "A star", she told me, "is somebody like **Jean Simmons** who was good in her first picture and has been good in every picture since."

Audrey knows that she was good in her first picture and everyone else knows it. "Roman Holiday", however, was a "natural" for any newcomer with a bubble of effervescence. It was a fairy-tale story as old as the first movie yet it appealed to all classes. Everyone believes they know how a Princess would feel if she had the chance to discover the everyday world of everyday people. All Audrey had to do was to react like people expected her to react and she would be acclaimed, found, discovered. Which is just what happened.

Audrey's new picture, however, is something different. It isn't everyone's picture by a long way. When released it will test just how good she really is. If she can still collect her bouquet in spite of the film and not, as in "Roman Holiday" because of it, then I for one will be very happy. Having met her I should hate her to discover that applause in the film-world can hide more garden paths than in any other profession.

DEPRESSED

At a colour-TV demonstration here last week I met **Dick Powell** who, for a man with a faith in movies, was depressed: "If this gets about we'll have to make very, VERY good movies to compete." Signs are that it will get about . . . and soon.

Although **Charles Boyer** still has his doubts about playing a 73-year-old in Abby Greshler's forthcoming "Mosadegh and the Shah", Abby is happy about his abilities. All he wants now is **Vittorio Gassman** for the Shah.

Whoever moves into **Bing Crosby's** Pebble Beach home (price: £80,000) will find, among other surprises, one large room for the Crosby boys containing four army beds, four wash basins—and four **separate** showers.

I hear that **Marie Wilson** is posing for Tom Kelly who takes calendar shots. It was Mr Kelly who took the now-famous and controversial birthday-suit shot of **Marilyn Monroe.** Move over, Marilyn!

Time was when **Joanne Dru** (then married to **Dick Haymes**) said that she couldn't stand living in the country. Now, married to **John Ireland** she is happily making a home in the San Fernando Valley. Which is country underlined.

Civil Aid Services Orders

Orders by the Hon. C. E. Terry, Commissioner, Civil Aid Services of December 4, 1953.

Congratulatory.—The Commissioner, C.A.S., congratulates the Wardens' Teams which took part in the Field Day on Sunday, November 29, 1953, upon their keenness and efficiency.

HEADQUARTERS

Leave.—F. E. d'Almada Remedios, Assistant Commissioner granted sick from 30.11.53. to 28.2.54.

WARDENS' SERVICE

Results of Field Day.—(1) The results of the Interzone Wardens Field Day on November 29, 1953, were as follows:— The Commissioner's Challenge Cup—won by Team 13, Central Zone; The Leo d'Almada Cup (Runners-up)—won by Team 11, Shaukiwan Zone, The Chief Warden's Shield (General-Duties)—won by Team 9, Bayview Zone; The C. Y. Kwan Cup (First Aid)—won by Team 10, Shamshuipo Zone; The Manning Cup (Rescue)—won by Team 3, Eastern Zone; The A. E. Osmund Cup (Firefighting)—won by Team 1, Central Zone. (2) The Todd Challenge Cup, for best training performance during the 1953 training year, has been won by Mongkok Zone.

Enrolments.—The following personnel have been enrolled:— Bay View Zone, 1405 Warden Mok Man-hoi w.e.f. 30.6.53, 1524 Warden Ng Man-bing, w.e.f. 1.10.53, 1412 Warden Sinn Kwok-kee, w.e.f. 2.10.53. Shamshuipo Zone, 5210 Warden Hung Hin-yee 5346 Warden Liu Kwong-chan, 5345 Warden Lam Kung-lok, w.e.f. 19.11.53. 5344 Warden Si-toa Yee, w.e.f. 23.11.53. 5204 Warden Kong Chor-sin 5213 Warden Kong Chor-yiu, w.e.f. 24.11.53.

Transfers.—5115 Warden Li Hung-bun—transferred from Shamshuipo to Rescue Service, w.e.f. 17.11.53. New No. 6315. 5211 Warden W.E. Gutierrez—transferred from Shamshuipo to Transport Section H.Q., w.e.f. 21.11.53. New No. 8015, 1409 Warden Yu Bun Tong—transferred from Bay View to Eastern, w.e.f. 23.11.53. New No. 2397. 1461 Warden Tong Yiu-man—transferred from Bay View to Mongkok, w.e.f. 23.11.53. New No. 4860. 1527 Warden Au Yeung-hai—transferred from Bay View to Taimshatsui, w.e.f. 23.11.53. New No. 3303.

Resignations. — 1835 Acting Post Warden, Shum Kuen-sang 1776 Warden Leo Won-fong, 1028 Warden Chan Chee, 1802 Warden Mok Siu-ke, 1825 Warden Tang Tsan-wing, 1774 Warden Yuen Ip-chee, 1780 Warden Chou Tak-choy, 1830 Warden Wong Yee-sheung, 1854 Warden Chan Foo-wing, 1818 Warden Tseng Sing-yan resigned from Upper Levels, w.e.f. 16.11.53. 2043 Warden Wong Sum, 2050 Warden So Yau-tong, 2061 Warden Yuen Chen, 2016 Warden Lam Chung-ki, 2033 Warden Kwan Wing-shu, 2062 Warden Yeung Man-kam, 2044 Warden Leung Pui-har, resigned from Shaukiwan, w.e.f. 16.11.53. 4079 Warden Ng Do-yung, 4063 Warden Wong Ying-kit, 3967 Warden Fok Man-kwong, 4007 Warden Low Kau, 3907 Warden Chan Kam-chuen, 4029 Warden Chung Kwai-fun, 4061 Warden Tsang Ping-lam resigned from Yaumati, w.e.f. 16.11.53, 1047 Warden Lau Tak-king, 1123 Warden Yuen Yiu-chung, 1174 Warden Yeung Wah-lock resigned from Western, w.e.f. 16.11.53. 2045 Warden Kwan Wing-kwong resigned from Shaukiwan, w.e.f. 19.11.53. 842 Warden Ho Chi-ying resigned from Eastern, w.e.f. 18.11.53. 4047 Warden Tsui Sum-shing resigned from Yaumati, w.e.f. 21.11.53.

Discharges. — 2010 Warden Ying Wah, 2046 Warden Cheng Chiu-wah, 2063 Warden Leung Sing-hong—discharged from Shaukiwan, w.e.f. 10.11.53, 2008 Warden Wan Kin-chiu—discharged from Shaukiwan, w.e.f. 17.11.53, 5130 Warden Chung Man-chak 5120 Warden Chan Wing-pak—discharged from Shamshuipo, w.e.f. 17.11.53, 1080 Warden Lee Wing-cam — discharged from Western, w.e.f. 16.11.53, 2816 Warden Cheng Wing-yat—discharged from Shung-hom, w.e.f. 23.11.53, 816 Warden Koon Chai-wing—discharged from Central., w.e.f. 10.9.53.

KOWLOON COMMAND POST

Training.—(a) The last regular training period of 1953 will be Red Watch, Thursday, December 10, at 18 hours (b) A compulsory attendance by all Watches is required at 18 hours, Thursday, December 17, in Room 120, Peninsula Hotel (1st floor), for a showing of C.A.S. films "The 29th Blitz" and "80 Days". This will last about 1¼ hours. Personnel requiring leave of absence must apply in advance to the Operations Officer of their watch, who should in turn report to Controller.

COMMUNICATION SERVICE

Promotions.—The following promotion has been approved:— 6054 Supervisor J. J. Edelman to be Assistant Controller, w.e.f. 1.12.53.

Enrolments.—The following personnel have been enrolled:— 6123 Pang Kwok-yee, 6128 Kenneth Andrew Miller, 6129 Ip Kun Im, w.e.f. 4.5.53. 6120 Pang Kwok-tsan 6138 D'narte Ferrer Lopes, 6140 John Kinloch, 6144 Reginald James Parsons, w.e.f. 11.5.53. 6139 Donald Brittan Evans w.e.f. 15.6.53. 6090 Norman Ng Chung-tak, 6149 Ho Yuk-lun w.e.f. 14.9.53. 6033 Au Shing-tim w.e.f. 16.9.53. 6154 Yeung Ying-yin w.e.f. 23.9.53. 6145 Chow Shiu-chee w.e.f. 10.11.53.

Transfers.—6122 Leung Po-shing—transferred from Communication Service to Command Post, Hong-kong, w.e.f. 21.11.53. New No. 8016.

Discharges. — 6045 Operator II Cheung Kam-chi—discharged from Communication Service, w.e.f. 10.11.53.

DISPATCH SERVICE

Resignations.—6846 Ng Siu-hong—resigned from Despatch Service, w.e.f. 16.11.53.

RESCUE SERVICE

Discharges.—6500 Lam Wai-chiu—discharged from Rescue Service, w.e.f. 23.11.53.

I. M. LIGHTBODY,
Chief Staff Officer,
Civil Aid Services,
December 4, 1953.

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"HUNAN"	Tientsin	5th Dec.
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		Load	Sails
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"CYCLOPS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Dec.	24th Dec.
"AUTOLYCUS"	Genoa, Rotterdam, Amsterdam London & Hamburg	22nd Dec.	24th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.	6th Jan.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

	Sails Liverpool	Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hong Kong
S. "AUTOLYCUS"	Sailed	—	11th Dec.
G. "PERSEUS"	—	Sailed	13th Dec.
S. "ANCHISES"	—	—	24th Dec.
G. "CLYTONEUS"	—	—	28th Dec.
S. "ASTYANAX"	3rd Dec.	—	8th Jan. 1954
G. "PYRRHUS"	7th Dec.	13th Dec.	13th Jan. 1954
S. "EUMAEUS"	18th Dec.	—	22nd Jan. 1954
G. "ASCANIUS"	24th Dec.	—	28th Jan. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool. Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

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	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
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"DONA AURORA"	— do —	17th Dec.	15th Jan.
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HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo	(DC-3) 6.30 a.m. Tue. Fri.	3.45 p.m. Wed. Sat.
HK/Saigon/Singapore	(DC-4) 11.00 a.m. Wed.	5.00 p.m. Thu.
HK/Hanoi/Haiphong	(DC-3) 10.00 a.m. Wed.	2.45 p.m. Thu.
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Hongkong, 29th November, 1953.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m/v "CYCLOPS"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Paulsen & Bayes-Davy at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on December 5 and 7, 1953, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, December, 3, 1953.

To ADVERTISERS

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For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

Protecting Shopkeepers

Cairo, Dec. 3.

British forces set up barbed wire barricades today around the shopping district in Fayid following alleged Egyptian armed attacks on shopkeepers who refused to boycott British personnel.

British officials said that the roadblocks and barricades were designed to check the entry of unauthorised persons into the area.

Most of the shopkeepers of the district are either refugees or stateless persons who are employed on permits from the British War Department.

For some time, Egyptians in the Suez Canal Zone have enforced an unofficial shopping boycott against British personnel, but Fayid's non-Egyptian shopkeepers had been an exception.

Recently, British officials said, these have been under attacks and intimidation from the Egyptians. Therefore, the British Command decided to give them protection.—United Press.

Lack Of Funds

Paris, Dec. 3.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has been forced by lack of funds to reject requests for help to set up elementary and technical schools in Malaya, the Gold Coast and Yemen, Dr Malcolm Adiseshiah of India, Director of UNESCO's technical assistance department told Reuter here today.—Reuter.

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"CORFU"	10th December	11th January
"CHUSAN"	10th December	16th January
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February

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"CARTHAGE"	18th December	18th January
"CORFU"	15th Jahuary	15th February
"CHUSAN"	1st February	1st March
"CANTON"	16th February	16th March

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Outwards	Arrives
"SOCOTRA"	In Port
"SUNDA"	6th December

Homewards	Sails
"SHILLONG"	15th December

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	sails 8th Dec.	for Singapore, Rangoon & Chittagong
"SANTHIA"	due 7th Dec.	from Japan
	sails 8th Dec.	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta
"SIRDHANA"	due 16th Dec.	from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits
	sails 17th Dec.	for Japan

P. & O./B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OZARDA"	due 7th Dec.	from Japan
	sails 9th Dec.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay & Karachi also P. Gulf Ports Via Bombay
"UMARIA"	due 17th Dec.	from Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Straits
	sails 16th Dec.	for Japan
"OKHLA"	due 20th Dec.	from P. Gulf, Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Singapore
	sails. 21st Dec.	for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"EASTERN"	due 7th Dec.	from Japan & Shanghai
	sails 13th Dec.	for Sydney, Adelaide & Melbourne
"NELLORE"	due 18th Dec.	from Australia
	sails 20th Dec.	for Japan

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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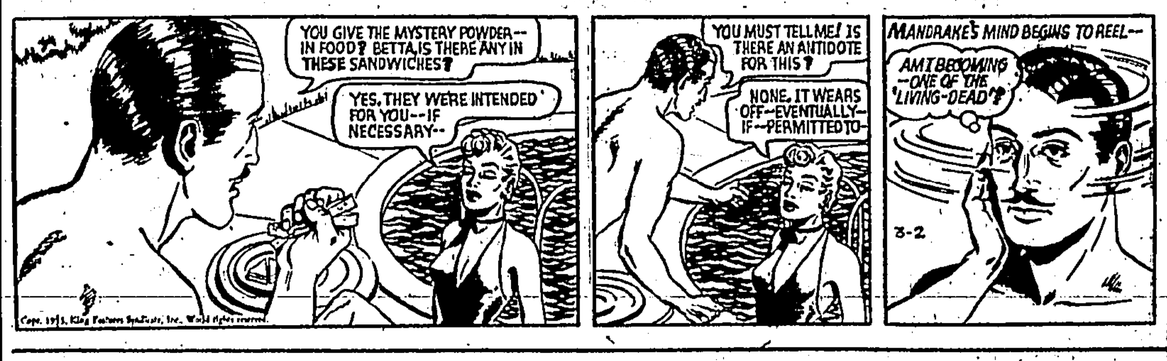
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



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"BRADEVERETT"

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"THAI"

Arrives	Dec. 4	from Sandakan.
Sails	Dec. 6	for Okinawa, Kobe & Yokohama.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives	Dec. 16	from Japan.
Sails	Dec. 17	for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah & Bahrein.

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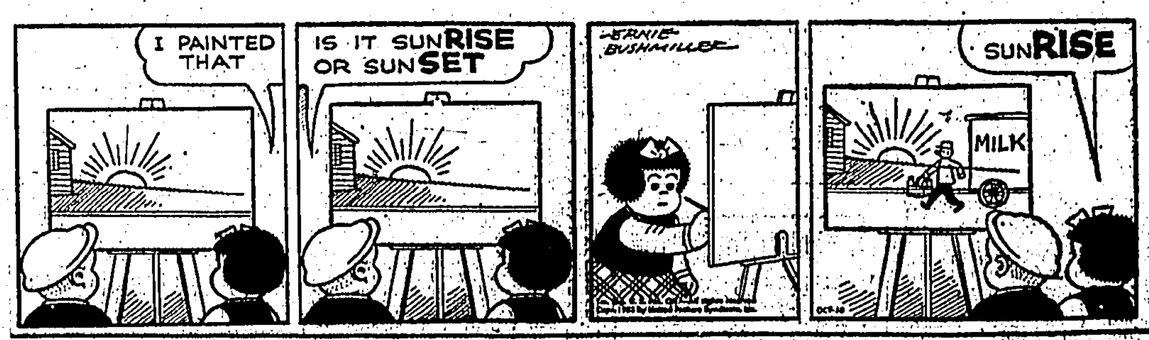
NANCY

No Question!

By Ernie Bushmiller



SMARTIES
ROWNTREE'S CHOCOLATE BEANS
the family's favourite

JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins

...this situation calls for a San Miguel

EGYPTIAN COTTON CROP

Cairo, Dec. 3.

The Egyptian Government will continue its policy of buying and selling the cotton crop in 1954-55, a Cabinet spokesman said today.

A finance note urged that this policy be continued "until a time when the reopening of the Liverpool cotton market will have satisfactorily solved the problem of currency transfers," he said. The Cabinet approved the Finance Ministry's recommendation.

It was announced recently in the British House of Commons that the Liverpool cotton market would probably reopen in September 1954, after the cotton commission was wound up.

The Egyptian Ministry's note said that "before thinking of reopening the Alexandria futures market," two factors were essential—creation of foreign markets to establish an equilibrium in cotton prices outside and inside Egypt to check monopoly transactions or the manipulation of prices, and currency conversion between Alexandria and other markets.—Reuter.

Investigation Of Truman Men

Washington, Dec. 3.

The Senate Investigation Security Sub-Committee announced today that it had received from the Department of Justice for study reports on three former employees of the Treasury Department appointed or promoted by the Truman administration although the men had been under investigation for alleged Communist sympathies.

It was stated that F.B.I. reports on the three men had been sent to the White House and other high officials.

The three former government employees—V. Frank Coe, Solomon Adler and Victor Perlo—were colleagues or subordinates of Harry Dexter White. They were alleged to have been involved in a wartime spy ring.—France-Presse.

Arnhem Battlefield Murder

A beautiful German girl has unmasked Ober-Lieutenant Lerche of Hitler's front-line propaganda unit as the murderer of a captured British wounded doctor, shot in cold blood as he tended German and British wounded at Arnhem. Now in a police cell at Munich, Lerche (pictured here) has confessed he killed the British Captain, but claims that he was ordered to shoot by a superior officer in the field. He is to stand trial for murder at Munich next month. For Scotland Yard a nine months' search comes to an end by the trial for they expect to provide positive identification of the British Officer and other damming evidence to clinch the case against Lerche. Lerche was betrayed by his mistress, Frau Bormann, who was jealous because he left her for another woman. The police have traced Lerche's commanding officer who brands him as a liar claiming that he never went to Divisional H. Q. for orders. Express Photo.

New Yokohama Rises Out Of The Ruins

Tokyo, Dec. 3.

Japan's great seaport of Yokohama has made such a recovery from its war-time battering that its population is now higher than it was pre-war and last year more than 10,000,000 tons of shipping were handled.

When Allied troops landed in Japan they found Yokohama in ruins. Many of its people had evacuated to country areas. Today, eight years after, the city has been almost completely rebuilt.

When Emperor Hirohito visited the city in 1946 on his postwar trip outside Tokyo, he saw nothing but desolation.

More than half of the city's 400 square kilometres (155 square miles) were covered by debris. Its great docks, which had been used by ships of every nation, were just being put back in working order for the use of Allied warships and transports.

More than 118,000 homes within the city limits were destroyed and the population reduced from the 1943 figure of 1,038,000 to 625,000.

Today the city is 70 to 80 per cent rehabilitated. Its population in August was 1,073,000 slightly higher than the pre-war peak.

NEAR PRE-WAR

The number of homes is now nearing the pre-war figure. There are more industrial establishments than at any other time in the city's history.

The city's fortunes can be determined by the volume of shipping handled.

In 1952, 2,072 ships aggregating more than 10,600,000 tons and flying the flags of every free nation docked at Yokohama piers. This compares to the 2,792 ships totalling 12,880,378 tons which docked in 1937.

Two of the largest piers are still requisitioned by the United States Army. It is only by imposing a 48-hour time limit on length of stay that the large number of commercial ships calling at the port can be handled.

Two new piers are under construction and another is being extended.

The tonnage of cargo handled at the port has shown a large increase during recent years but it is still far below the pre-war annual volume.

From 2,149 tons in 1948, the volume increased to 6,390,000 tons in 1952.

LAND REQUISITIONED

The city authorities say that Yokohama would have made an even quicker and more impressive recovery if it had not been for the fact that a large number of buildings, land and facilities are still requisitioned.

The City Fathers estimate 100,000,000,000 yen (about £100,000,000 sterling) has been lost due to requisitioning since 1945.

Yokohama was opened as Japan's first major trading port in June, 1859. As the gateway to Tokyo, it has played an important part in Japan's relations with the west. It was in Yokohama that the first large foreign community was established.

At the outbreak of the Pacific War the majority of overseas firms had their offices in Yokohama rather than in Tokyo.

The Mayor's office recently published an outline of the city's recent history which summed up the extent of its recovery.

The publication said, "Yokohama has no equal in terms of numbers of incoming and outgoing vessels, the tonnage-tax revenue and the number of passengers and volume of freight to and from abroad. Thus the port of Yokohama still firmly occupies the top place among the ports of Japan."—China Mail Special.

They Joined Up Together

When Chelsea pensioner, Sergeant Ernest Aukett, aged 74, meets cousin George, aged 73, from Eastbourne, he doesn't recall the day "when I joined up." It is a case of "the day when we joined up."

For Ernest and his cousin George Aukett of New-place, Eastbourne, enlisted together in the 11th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment in 1896.

Ernest served in South Africa during the Boer War, George was in India.

Later they both saw service together in India, as did a third and younger cousin, William.

Recalled to the colours in the 1914-18 war, George was later transferred to the Royal West Surreys and was twice wounded in Flanders.

In civil life, George, for many years an Eastbourne theatre commissionaire, and Ernest, who worked at a furniture store along the road, were seldom far apart.

They have just met again at a regimental re-union at Eastbourne.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

New York Marvellous Hedge For Foreign Growths

By Sydney S. Campell, Reuter's Financial Editor

London, Dec. 2.

Against the one risk for which it does not provide a hedge—the risk of a collapse in both New York and overseas cotton prices—New York is a marvellous hedge for foreign growths: the European hedger would take the loss on his physicals in non-dollar currencies and would collect the profit on his New York short futures in dollars.

Against all the numerous other price risks of foreign growths, Europeans and others who have hedged them in New York ought to regard them as unhedged.

It is hard to see any real hedge anywhere for foreign growths.

It is not provided even by selling yarn or cloth forward, against all raw cotton in stock or bought forward: in the conditions in which a hedge was most needed, some of the forward yarn and cloth sales might run into cancellations.

If Bremen can develop a futures market in non-U.S. cottons it might do well; the strength of Germany's foreign exchange position and her ripeness for full convertibility would be a great advantage to German futures markets.

To attract enough bulls, any new futures market in non-U.S. cottons might have to quote heavy discounts.

REAL QUESTION

The real question is whether non-U.S. cottons hedged in New York are worse than unhedged, inasmuch as the hedger might lose both ways—by the price of his physical cotton going down while the price of his short New York contract was going up to the point at which cotton can be redeemed from the loan to relieve a technical shortage of contracts. On the whole, one doubts it. In conditions in which the hedger was losing heavily on his physical cotton, it seems unlikely that he would be losing on his hedge too.

It is quite possible that the hedge would be recouping none of the loss on the physicals, whereas the theory of the hedge is to recoup more or less all the loss on the physicals. That would be bad enough, but it might anyway be premature to expect anything even worse than that.

The both-ways loss which some Europeans fear for cotton is already occurring in wheat.

Large entries into the loan are creating a scarcity of free wheat in the U.S., so Chicago is rising while export prices of non-U.S. wheats are falling and might slump. But the analogy may not be exact.

WORLD IMPORTERS

World importers are still marginally dependent on some U.S. cotton, though not very much. They could be entirely independent of U. S. wheat: Canada and other exporters would be delighted to let Europe and Asia have all the wheat they will buy, without a bushel from the U.S. It is only by export subsidies (under the International Wheat Agreement) and similar special arrangements that the U.S. manages to export any wheat at all.

More important, U.S. wheat prices fell much further below the support level than U.S. cotton prices have so far done.

Most important of all, they probably fell too low to deter enough wheat from entering the loan. That is the crux for cotton. About eight million bales of cotton are still neither entered into the loan nor consumed. The real equilibrium price is the one which would attract enough of this cotton to market, without ever going into the loan.

The price seems only moderately, if at all, above the present price.

The question of the still higher market price adequate to pay charges for repossessions from the loan does not yet arise.

TECHNICAL SQUEEZE

Accordingly, fears of a technical squeeze through shortage of contracts seem to be at least premature. That situation is unlikely to develop until much later in the season, if then.

One hazards that the total U.S. carryover at the end of this season may approach ten million bales. If so, though the bulk of it will be under the CCC's control, the fraction available for the free market may be adequate, since it will be a fraction of so huge a total.

In both wheat and cotton, the CCC, if it wishes, can find ways to relieve a market shortage at below the repossession level, for example by liberally interpreting its right to unload goods in danger of going out of condition.

Anticipations of export subsidies or similar measures on the 1954 crop might also relieve any contract tightness in the closing months of this crop-year. Awaiting the cheaper new-crop cotton, people would run down their old-crop stocks of both cotton and cotton goods; and material which was being held for current consumption or trading stocks might become available for tenders on the New York futures market.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Dec. 3.

Stocks extended their advance through the seventh consecutive session today despite late profit-taking which pared gains.

Industrials advanced to their best level since March 27 under high-grade leadership. Utilities were at their best since March 30 and less than a point from their 22-year highs set on March 13. Only the rails closed lower—dropping 36 cents in their average despite a few good-sized gains.

Turnover for the day of 1,740,000 shares compared with 1,850,000 yesterday. Many in the Street felt the market has begun its traditional year-end rally helped by reinvestment of year-end interest and dividend payments and proceeds from tax sales which it is noted seem about completed. There is some concern expressed however, over failure of the carriers to keep pace with other groups. Many analysts feel vigorous rail participation is essential to a sustained advance. Volume centred on RKO Theatres unchanged at $5. US Steel up ¼ at $39½. Steels and motors firmed.

Of the 1,160 issues traded today, 475 were higher, 359 lower and 326 unchanged. There were 39 new highs set seven new lows.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was at $3,120,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was at 470,000 shares.

Dow Jones closing averages were:

	Dec. 2	Dec. 3
30 industrials	282.81	283.23
20 rails	99.88	99.52
15 utilities	—	52.97
65 stocks	107.95	108.00
40 bonds	96.84	97.00
Comm. future price index	182.00	182.10

—United Press.

The Rubber Markets

Singapore, Dec. 3.

Prices of rubber futures today closed as follows (Straits cents per lb.):—

No. 1 rubber per lb.	Dec.	60¾-61
	Jan.	60⅞-61⅛
	Feb.	60¾-60⅞
No. 2 rubber per lb.	Dec.	57¾-58
No. 3 rubber per lb.	Dec.	54-54½
No. 4 rubber per lb.	Dec.	—
Spot rubber unbaled		60¼-60¾
Blanket crepe		50-51
No. 1 pale crepe		67-69

Market: Closed quietly steady.

—United Press.

LONDON MARKET

London, Dec. 3.

Prices of rubber futures today closed as follows (pence per lb.):—

No. 1 Rss spot	17¾-17⅞
Settlement house term:	
Jan. 1954	17¾-17⅞
March	17⅞-18
Jan./March	17⅞-18
April/June	17⅞-18
July/Sept.	18⅛-18¼
General markets, cif basis, ports:	
Dec.	17 11/16-17 13/16
Jan. 1954	17 11/16-17 13/16
Feb.	17¾-17⅞
Estate crepe rubber	
thick	unquoted
thin	19¾-20

Market: Quiet

—United Press.

NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Dec. 3.

Rubber futures today closed unchanged to 15 points lower with sales of 48 contracts.

No. 1 spot Rss were quoted at 21¼ cents per lb.

Futures:

December	20.80b
March, (1954)	20.80
May	21.05b
July	21.10
September	21.15n
December	21.20n

—United Press.

AMSTERDAM MARKET

Amsterdam, Dec. 3.

The rubber market was steady. Prices (in guilders per kilogram):

No. 1 rubber	Jan.	1.75 buyers
No. 2 rubber	Jan.	1.73 "
No. 3 rubber	Jan.	1.68 "
No. 1 crepe rubber	Jan.	1.86 paid

—United Press.

London Foreign Exchange

London, Dec. 3.

New York	2.81-2.81⅛
Montreal	2.74-1/16-2.74-3/16
Amsterdam	10.64-10.64⅛
Brussels	140.05-140.10
Oslo	19.28¾-19.29
Zurich	12.23¾-12.23⅞
Copenhagen	19.41-19.41⅛
Paris	980-980¼
Stockholm	14.49⅛-14.49⅛
Lisbon	79.85-80.10
Hamburg	11.71⅛-11.71⅛
Blocked Mark	10-13/16-10-15/16

—United Press.

JAPANESE BONDS

London, Dec. 3.

Japanese bond	na.	a.
"A" (4s of 1899)	83¼	71
"B" (4s of 1910)	77	63¼
"C" (5s of 1907)	109½	115½
"D" (5s of 1924)	100½	89
"E" (5½s of 1930)	171½	79¼
"F" (Tokyo 5½s of 1926)	84½	79¼
"G" (Tokyo 5s of 1912)	102½	85½
Consols	88½	

na.—non-assented a.—assented.

—United Press.

GRAINS IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Dec. 3.

Prices per bushel in cents:

	Closing Prices
Wheat, No. 2 red	
Spot	203¾ nom.
Dec. 204⅛(H) 202(L)	203¼
March 1954	208⅛-208
May	207⅝-⅛
July	198-197⅞
Sept.	200⅛
Corn, No. 2 yellow	
Spot	161⅛
Dec.	155¾-⅛
March 1954	160⅛
May	160⅝-¼
July	159⅛-159
Sept.	154⅞
Rye	
Dec.	120¾-121
March 1954	125⅛-¾
Oats	
Dec.	78⅛
March 1954	81⅛-¼
Soybeans, No. 2 yellow	
Spot	309 nom.
Jan. 1954	310½-⅛
March	310¾-311
May	307¾
July	—
Sept.	207½-⅛
Barley spot	130-162

New York flour, 200 lbs. sack $18.90 nom.—United Press.

Russia's Need For Sterling

New York, Dec. 3.

Russia's need for sterling to buy consumer goods in the sterling area has led to new gold and platinum sales in London, a leading international economist said here today.

Franz Pick, publisher of Pick's World Currency Report, said that last week the Soviet Union sold about 1,000,000 ounces of Russian gold at 248 shillings ($35) per ounce to the British Government.

Delivery of this gold to be completed within four or six weeks, Mr Pick predicted.

Platinum sale to private sources of more than one ton at about $90 an ounce. This sale totalled about US$2,880,000.

Russia's latest sales, Mr Pick declared, increased her sterling supply of approximately £13,530,000 or US$37,900,000. Their repercussion in the sterling market led to a considerable hardening of all accessory pound rates and stiffened the dollar price of transferable sterling to $2.70, a historic high, he said.

He predicted that new Russian sales would be made, adding that "The international pressure on the gold price might carry its European transit price to $34.70.

"At that level, gold arbitrage and shipping to the US will become possible," Mr Pick declared.—United Press.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to $895,597.60. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:—

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	1615	1625	120 @ 1625
INSURANCES			
Lombard	58		
Union XD	862½	865	150 @ 867½
			100 @ 865
Underwriters	7.70		
SHIPPING			
Waterboat	19.40	20	
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf	85½		500 @ 86
			000 @ 86
Dock	21.30	21.70	
Provident (O)	12.80	13	500 @ 12.90
" (O)		12.30	
Wheelock XD	8.05	8.15	1200 @ 8.10
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	8.35	8.40	2000 @ 8.40
			1000 @ 8.35
			3800 @ 8.35
HK Land	75	76	100 @ 75½
			800 @ 75
S'hai Land		1.37½	
Humphreys	18.10	18.20	1700 @ 18.20
Realty XD (and RTS)	1.90	1.97½	7000 @ 1.95
RTS		1	
UTILITIES			
Tram	26.70	27	500 @ 26.80
Star Ferry			100 @ 145
C. Light (O) XD	13.70	14	
C. Light (N) XD		10.00	
Electric	20	20.20	100 @ 20.10
			1000 @ 20.10
			1000 @ 20.10
			500 @ 20.10
Macao Elec.	10.70	11	1014 @ 10.90
			1500 @ 10.90
Telephone	26½	26.70	500 @ 26.70
			1200 @ 26.60
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement	18.00	18.80	500 @ 18.60
Rope	10.80		200 @ 10.70
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	23.00	23.90	500 @ 23.00
Watson		21.00	
COTTONS			
Ewo		2	
Textile Corp.		6.75	
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yangtsze		8.35	

NEW YORK FOREIGN EXCHANGE

	Closing rates Dec. 3.
Canada (dollar)	$1.02 19/32
England—official	2.81 3/16
unofficial	2.01-2.04
" 30-day future	2.81⅛
" 90-day future	2.80
Australia (pound)	2.25
New Zealand (pound)	2.81⅛
South Africa (pound)	2.81 11/16
Belgium (franc)	.0020¾
Denmark (krone)	.1450
France (franc)	.0028
Germany (deutsche mark)	.2383
Holland (guilder)	.3635
Italy—official	.2385
Norway (krone)	.0061
Portugal (escudo)	.1400
Spain (peseta)	.0030
Sweden (krone)	.2300
Switzerland—free	.0237
Middle East	
Egypt (pound)	2.861⅛
Iran (rial)	.3125
Iraq (dinar)	2.80⅛
Turkey (rial)	.3250
Latin America	
Argentina—official	.0725
Brazil (cruzeiro)	.0550
Bolivia (boliviano)	.0050
Chile (official)	.0091
Columbia (peso)	.4080
Cuba—official	1.00
Mexico (peso)	.1154
Peru—free	.0560
Uruguay (peso)	.0658
Venezuela (bolivar)	.3400⅛
Far East	
India (rupee)	.2110
Pakistan (rupee)	.3045
Hongkong (dollar)	.1756
Indonesia (rupiah)	.0886
Singapore (Straits dollar)	.3285
Japan	360 yen to US$1

—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	5.86
Sterling note (per £1)	15.61
Indonesian guilders (per 100)	20.80
Siam ticals (per 100)	26.70
Singapore (Straits)	1.77
Indo-China piastres (per 100)	7.85

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JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

PILLOW CASE

ROB'S job must be one of the most sought-after of its kind in the great cavernous railway terminus where he works.

Although on the pay-roll, his name is down, along with many others, as a porter, grade II, it would be more accurate to describe him as a soft-goods dispenser.

Not for Rob the common tasks of porters, grade II, such as toting heavy loads for passengers, class III. Not for him the handling of awkward commodities like calves in sacks, whose protests bring upon the heads of their bearers unspoken, unwarranted accusations of cruelty.

A NIGHT'S SLEEP—1S. 6D.

THE heaviest burden Rob has to carry is a pillow filled with swansdown or kapok or whatever it is the railways fill their pillows with. These, as the night trains fret and fume waiting to go, Rob hires out to travellers lacking sleeper-reservations.

It is easy to see how Rob was picked for the job, for he is past middle-age, and has a restful, reassuring, sleep-inducing tranquillity about him that might belong to the Sand Man himself. To hire a pillow from Rob, you feel, is to purchase for eighteenpence the guarantee of a good night's rest.

The other midnight, alas, Rob fell down.

'GO HOME!'

AT least, to a passing platform inspector it looked as if he would have fallen down had he not been propped up, lolling, against his truck-load of pillows.

The inspector watched while Rob dispensed a pillow to a customer in a most undesirably devil-may-care fashion, then he went up to him. He noticed Rob's eyes were, as a policeman was later to say, "glossy," that his breath smelt of alcohol.

"You'd better pay in your money and go home," the inspector said. As Rob was reluctant to go, the inspector sent for the police.

Next morning, in the Clerkenwell court, before Mr T.F. Davies, Rob pleaded not guilty to a charge of "being drunk and disorderly during his employment as a railway porter."

THREE BROWNS

THE platform inspector told his story, writing down the rude names Rob called him, because he did not wish to sully his lips with them; the railway policeman told of the arrest. Then Rob went into the witness-box.

"Had you had any drink?" the magistrate asked him.

"Well, I had three brown ales about half-past eight," said Rob, whose working hours were six in the evening until two in the morning. "I went into the canteen to get a bit of baccy, see," he explained, "so I had to have a drink."

"When can you have a break for food—any time?" the magistrate asked him.

'MARVELLOUS'

"WELL, when things are slack, sort of," Rob said.

"There's no check on it?"

"No," said Rob.

"Marvellous," said the magistrate with heavy irony. "I haven't any doubt you were drunk," he went on. He asked if anything were known about Rob. Nothing was. Mr Davies turned to the inspector: "What's the effect of all this on this man's job?" he asked. "Does it depend on what I do?" The platform inspector nodded.

"I shall discharge you conditionally," the magistrate said to Rob. "But you stick to your work. This running to the canteen's an abomination. There ought to be a check on it; this is far too lax of the railways."

Rob nodded agreement, as if he intended to take up the matter at the highest possible level, directly. Then he went away, looking chastened and weary, as the Sand Man might, caught suffering from insomnia.

Tornado Kills 9, Destroys Village

Alexandria,
Louisiana, Dec. 3.

A tornado killed nine persons, injured 50 and sucked up one whole village in a jagged 80-mile march across middle Louisiana today.

Another twister, born of the same black storm front, injured 14 in Mississippi.

Descending in the midst of a hail storm, the killer tornado battered seven towns in this State — communities with such picturesque Louisiana names as Leander, Lecamp, Kingsville, Hineston, and Dry Prong. Another town hit is named Paradise.

The village of Leander was no more tonight. The mighty fist of the storm struck it just after dawn and of the town's 10 houses and two stores only two houses were left in condition to be repaired.

Seven persons died in the flying wreckage and 10 were injured, about a 30 per cent casualty rate for the community's population.

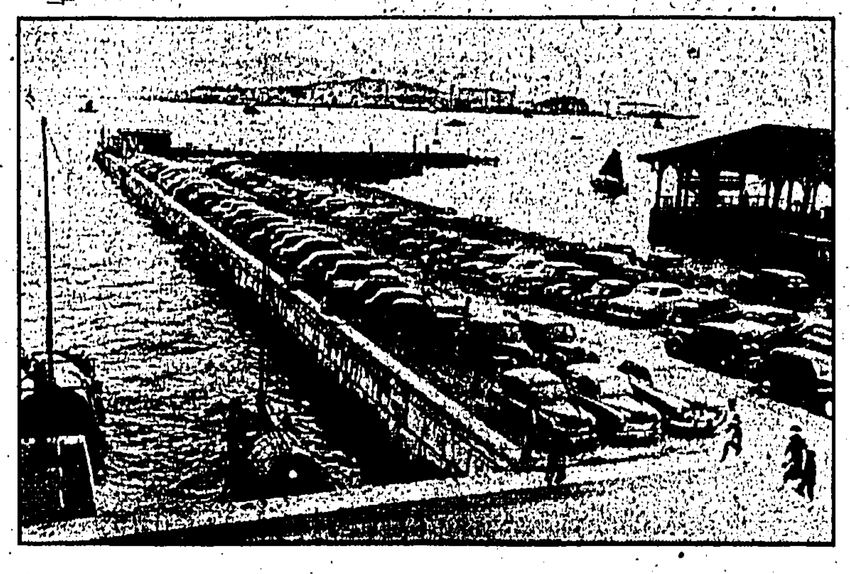
Leander is 40 miles southwest of Alexandria. At Tullos, 40 miles north of Alexandria at the other end of the tornado's rampage, the storm killed two and injured 15, six seriously.

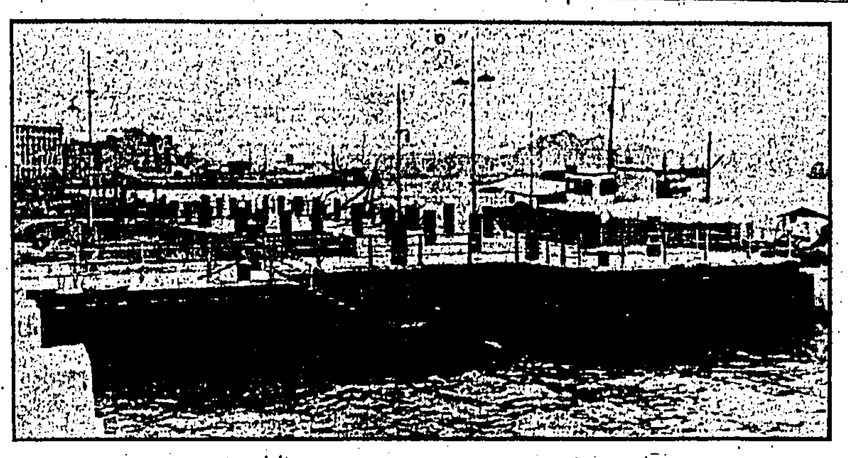
Only minor injuries and moderate damage were reported at Lecamp, Hineston, Kingsville and Dry Prong.

At Paradise, six miles north of Alexandria, the tornado grabbed a trailer in which three State Highway Department workers were sleeping.

The men escaped with light injuries. They later learned the storm had taken their trailer 100 yards through a clump of pines.—United Press.

Changing The Central Waterfront





The central waterfront is now in the course of being rapidly changed in appearance as these three pictures illustrate. Above, part of the new reclamation is sufficiently completed to permit of it being used as a temporary car park. Opposite, the landing stage of the new Queen's Pier. Below, an historic landmark — the Victoria Recreation Club—now in the course of demolition to make way for reclamation work.—Staff photographer.

PRISON FOR ILLEGAL RADIO OPERATOR

Described by the Prosecuting Officer as the most compact portable radio communicating set he had ever seen in Hongkong, a wireless transmitting set was exhibited before Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning, when Ng Chee-ching, 25, of 41 Bulkeley Street, top floor, appeared on three charges of establishing a radio communication station without a licence, possession of radio equipment without a licence, and being the occupier of premises in which radio equipment was installed without a licence.

Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour on the first count, six months' hard labour on the second and 12 months' hard labour or a fine of $3,000 on the third. The sentences are to run consecutively.

Mr D. B. L. Grew, of the General Post Office, who prosecuted, said that on information received, he raided the premises together with a Police party, armed with a warrant, yesterday. In a suitcase in the flat he found the most compact portable radio communicating set he had ever seen in Hongkong. It was evidently not used for commercial purposes, he said, and a number of messages which had been found had not yet been censored.

Mr Grew asked the Magistrate to take a very serious view of the case, adding that the Colony might have been endangered if the set had not been discovered.

The wireless equipment seized was ordered to be confiscated.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O., Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times, can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

By Air

Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, 6 p.m.

By Surface

France, 3 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

By Air

Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., & Canada, 6 a.m.
Burma, India, Ceylon, Malaya, 8 a.m.
Thailand, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 9 a.m.
Hawaii, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, 6 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., & Canada, 6 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 8.30 p.m.
Formosa, 9 a.m.
Japan, U.S.A., C. & S. America, Noon.
Malaya, Ceylon, Aden, Middle East, France, Great Britain & Europe, 2 p.m.
Macao, 3 p.m.
Burma, India, 3 p.m.
Sarawak, 3 p.m.
Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 5 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

By Air

Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.

By Surface

Macao, 2 p.m.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.

6.00, Time Signal and Programme Summary; 6.03, Contact. A Radio Magazine for the Rising Generation, with News, Views, Interviews, Stories and Music. Produced by Rosemary Richards (Studio); 6.30, Old Time Ballroom with Sydney Thompson and his Orch. (BBCTS); 6.59, Weather Report; 7.00, Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.10, Appeal for the Rose Day of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul by the Rev. Father R. W. Gallagher, S. J. (Studio); 7.15; Talking about Hongkong by Dr S. G. Davis and Rev. Father T. F. Ryan (Recorded); 7.30, Concert by the Portuguese Artists: Francisco Loureiro Dihis (singer), Vasco Barbosa (violin) and Grazi Barbosa (piano) (Concert Hall); 8.00, "Do you Remember?" In the last of the Ten Programmes celebrating the 21st Anniversary of the BBC's Empire Services, Edward Ward introduces recordings of some Highlights of Overseas Broadcasting in the Years 1931 to 1953 (Record London Relay); 8.30, Music for Romance—Hugo Winterhalter and his Orch.; 8.45, "Looking Back" presented by the British Council (Studio); 9.00, Time Signal—Music Lovers Hour—Classical Requests presented by Curtis Hindson (Studio); 10.00, An Experiment in Progress—An Investigation into the Nature of the Primary Cosmic Radiation by C. F. Powell, F.R.S. (BBCTS); 10.15, Boulevard Cafe; 10.40, Record Round-about; 10.59, Weather Report; 11.00, Time Signal. Radio News Reel (Recorded London Relay); 11.15, Goodnight Music. God Save The Queen; 11.30, Close Down.

Let Off With A Caution

"I have a wife and four children to support. Usually I dump the rubbish I have collected into rubbish vans," said a 47-year-old coolie Wong Wing in mitigation after he pleaded guilty to the charge of dumping rubbish into the harbour without permission before Mr A. G. Parker at the Marine Court this morning.

"But yesterday," defendant went on, "my two baskets got broken. I didn't want to make the road dirty, therefore..."

"Therefore," interrupted the Magistrate, "you make the harbour dirty!"

"It is a very serious offence to dump rubbish into the harbour," Mr Parker continued to say, "but in view of the fact you have been in custody over night, and being in poor circumstances, I convict you and only caution you."

"But if you appear in this court for the similar offence again," warned Mr Parker, "I will take a serious view."

DEATH OF CAPTAIN J. T. LAING

We regret to record the death of Captain J. T. Laing, a well known figure in Hongkong shipping circles who passed away in the home of a relative in North Shields, England, on October 3. The late Capt. Laing was 76 years of age.

Known to many of his friends as "Tommy", Captain Laing was for many years delivery skipper for the Taikoo Dock. He was also well known as the Hainan Straits pilot which job he had held from 1920 to 1941.

At the end of 1952, the late Capt. Laing left Kowloon Hospital and was put on board the ss Asturias and proceeded to England. He had been a patient in the Haslar Hospital, Portsmouth since July this year.

At the end of September, accompanied by two naval escorts, he went to North Shields to join one of his relatives. He collapsed and died a few days later.

The late Capt. Laing was also an associate member of the China Coast Officers' Guild.

SUCCEEDS MR MacINTOSH

The appointment of Mr Fung Ping-fan as Commissioner of the Hongkong District, St John Ambulance Brigade Overseas, was announced in the Gazette this morning.

Mr Fung has been acting as Commissioner since the departure of Mr D. W. MacIntosh. For the last two years he has been Assistant Commissioner. He has been connected with the Brigade for over 20 years.

A senior official of the Bank of East Asia, Ltd, Mr Fung is also a member of the Urban Council and a Justice of the Peace.

31st Anniversary Celebrated

Mrs Beatrice Church was host last evening to a large and representative gathering of the Colony's business community at the Hongkong Club when she held a cocktail party to celebrate the 31st Anniversary of her company, the Advertising and Publicity Bureau, Ltd.

Mr George Sewell, Hongkong representative of the Federation of British Industries, proposed the health of Mrs Church, the toast being warmly acclaimed.

Censors Panel

The Gazette today notified the appointment of the following to be members of the panel of censors: Commdr R. S. Barry, RN (Retd), Mrs L. M. Pennell and Miss Helen Yu.

Unfortunately The Play Was Not The Thing!

It is not often that a critic gets an opportunity to congratulate the prompt corner. Last night at "Open Verdict" ample reason was provided, and I would like to commend Olivia Nichol for an excellent job carried out as unobtrusively as possible.

But a further word rehearsal today is as constructive a suggestion as I can make to The Garrison Players over their second production this season. That, and a recommendation that they are more careful in their choice of play in the future.

Arnold Graham, the producer, could do very little with such poor material— a mystery that holds no suspense cannot hope to be a success. As usual, however, The Players have managed to get an excellent decor, and the dresses are also effective.

Stan Lloyd and Pat Butler shared the acting honours. Mr Lloyd has a confidence that is comforting and is particularly to be praised for his speed at picking up cues. Alistair Drummond, too, made a welcome appearance as the Inspector General. In fact all the men in the cast gave stronger performances than the ladies—God Bless 'em! Why must maids be part? On the other hand I would like to give a word of warning to Ann Marden to take care that her stage personality doesn't become too cold and inflexible.

No, I cannot pretend that this is a good effort. As I said before, this is largely due to the choice of play, and I put it to the committee of the Garrison Players, who are after all one of our best amateur dramatic societies and from whom we have come to expect very good work, that they should reconsider carefully their next production so that they can take us all by storm and make me eat these words of mine.—MARGARET BRUCE.

Mr R. Frost has been reappointed as a member of the Port Committee and the Port Welfare Committee vice Mr H. H. Tod, it was announced in the Gazette today.

Notification was given in the Gazette today that the warrant of H.E. the Governor whereby Mr Horace Lo was appointed to be a Magistrate has been revoked, with effect from December 1, 1953.

"What's His Line?" Solution
SPRAY PAINTER
London Express Service.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

The following Government appointments were notified in the Gazette today:

Mr B. J. B. Morahan and Mr J. W. Cockburn to be Senior Education Officers, and Miss Frances Hon to be Education Officer (Woman).

Notice was also given that the following have resumed duty:

Mr I. B. Trevor, General Manager, Railway; Mr R. J. C. Howes, Establishment Officer; and Mr H. J. Cruttwell, Labour Officer.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS

The Queen's Exequatur empowering Mr J. Horn to act as Honorary Consul for Austria at Hongkong has received Her Majesty's signature, the Gazette announced today.

Recognition has also been accorded by H. H. the Governor's Deputy, provisionally and pending instructions from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to Mr D. Ruiad as Vice-Consul for Indonesia at Hongkong.

The Gazette also notified that Mr T. R. G. Fletcher, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner at Hongkong, has returned duty.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"Can you signal Dad to stop raving about politicians? That's what Wilbur is going to be when he finishes law school!"

Something You're Searching—

- Impeccably tailored suits, coats, three-piece ensembles, made of Anglo luxurious pure woollens, individually designed by top Paris and the New York couturiers—some with fabulous mink or other fur collars or cuffs. The exciting new "REEFER COATS," cutely trimmed with leathers. "COWL NECK and TURTLE NECK" cardigans for sportswear, matchable with wonder fabric woollen, wrinkless, varied—pleated skirts and high fashion leather belts and handbags absolutely "EXCLUSIVE with MODE ELITE" and the very "HIGH FASHIONS" worn today by gentlewomen and misses in Paris, London and New York City.
- Rich detailed woollen or wool blended with wrinkless resisting fabric daytime and cocktail sheaths or suitdresses seen featured by November fashion journals. Distinctive party clothes, rich fur stoles, capes, bolerros—some in fabulous Great Lake colourful mink sewn in flexible "LET-OUT" way with perfect fluid lines enhancing the beauty of your ensembles. See our ROYAL PESTIL, BLACK BLUE, SILVERBLUE mink cape-stoles—something to glorify you at your holiday party.
- Just unpacked two worldwide famous better casual shoes by "RHYTHM STEP" and "CAMELLIETTES" in lustest cognac, black and navy and brown suitable for wear by distinguished young matrons. Their precision walking comfort and enduring quality outclass six pairs of best domestic shoes made to order. Come and see them. A dazzling world of other better shoes like "VALLEY, MADEMOISELLE, FABULOUS, PARADISE, CAPEZIO" etc exclusive with MODE ELITE are for society sophisticates.

MODE ELITE
22 Queen's Road, C. Tel: 24052.

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